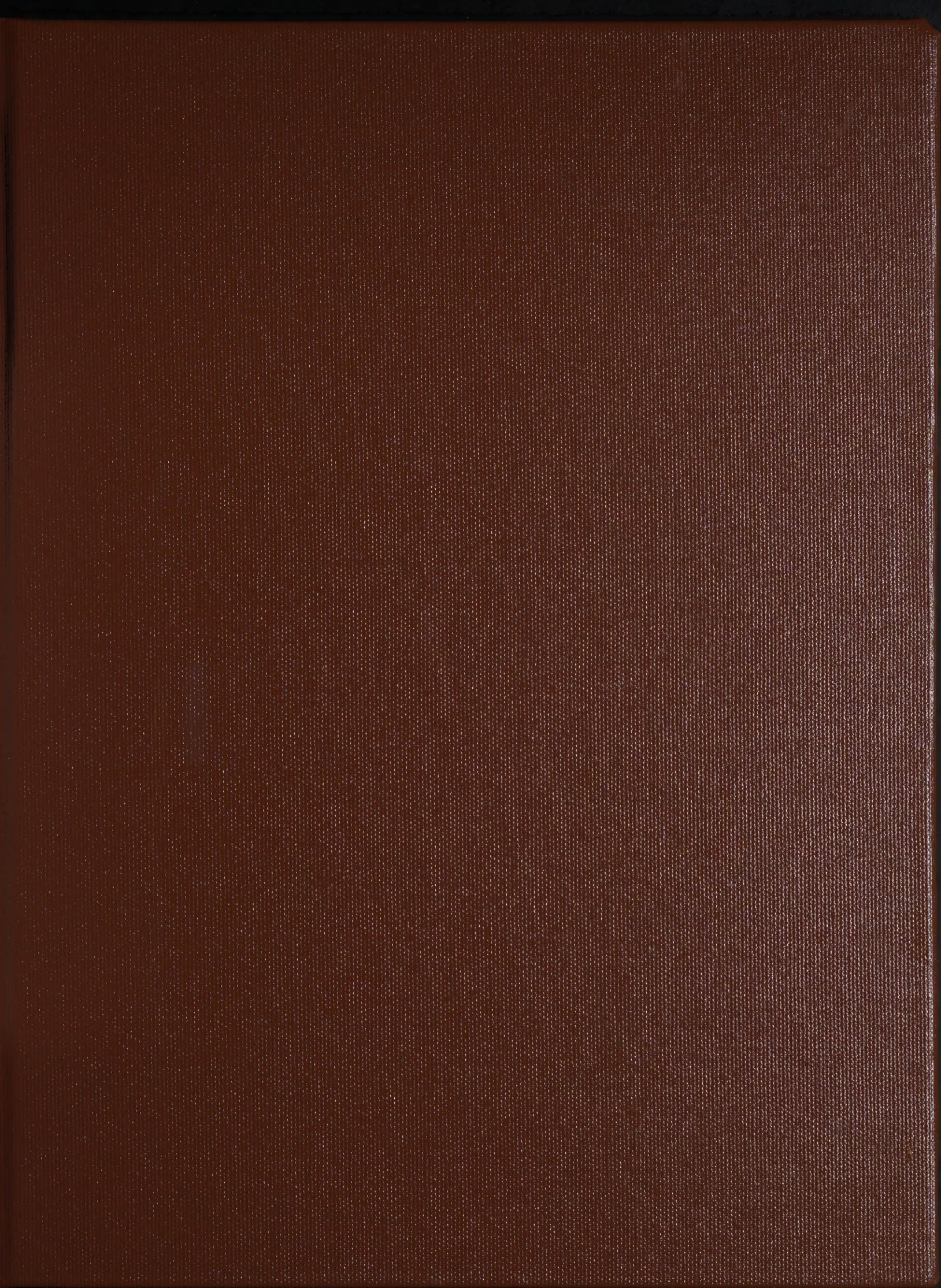
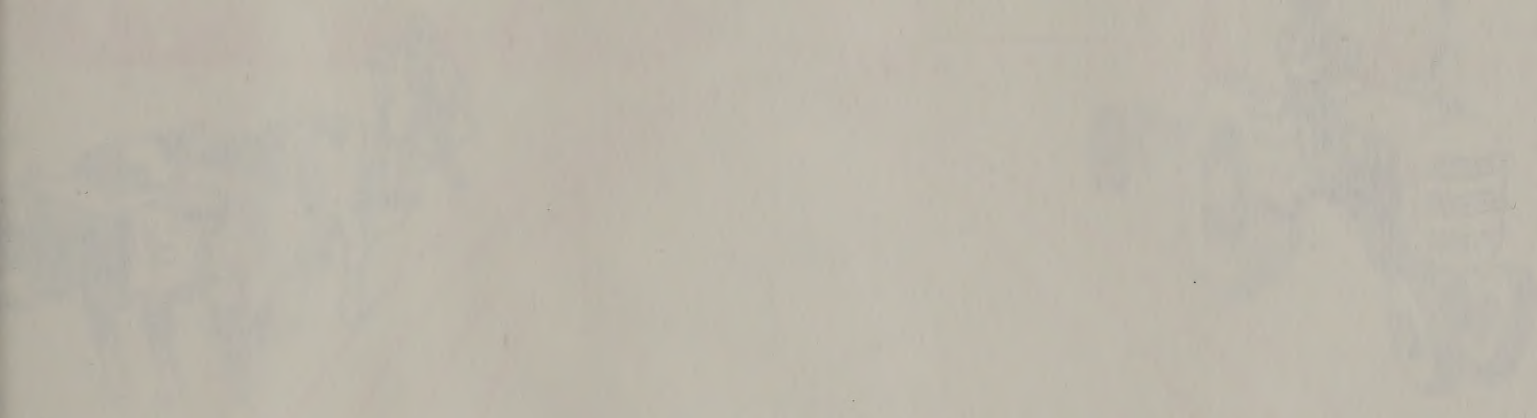


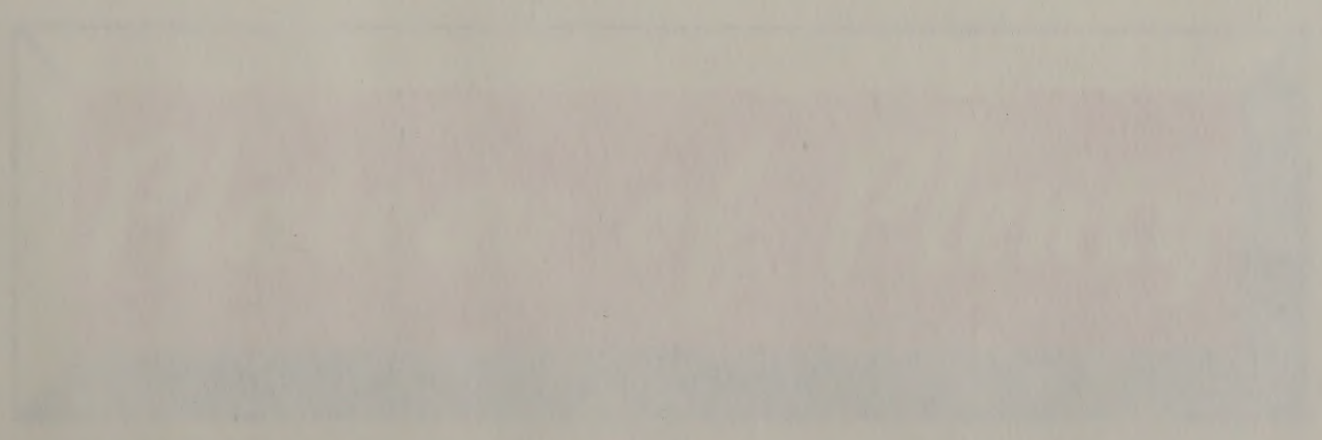


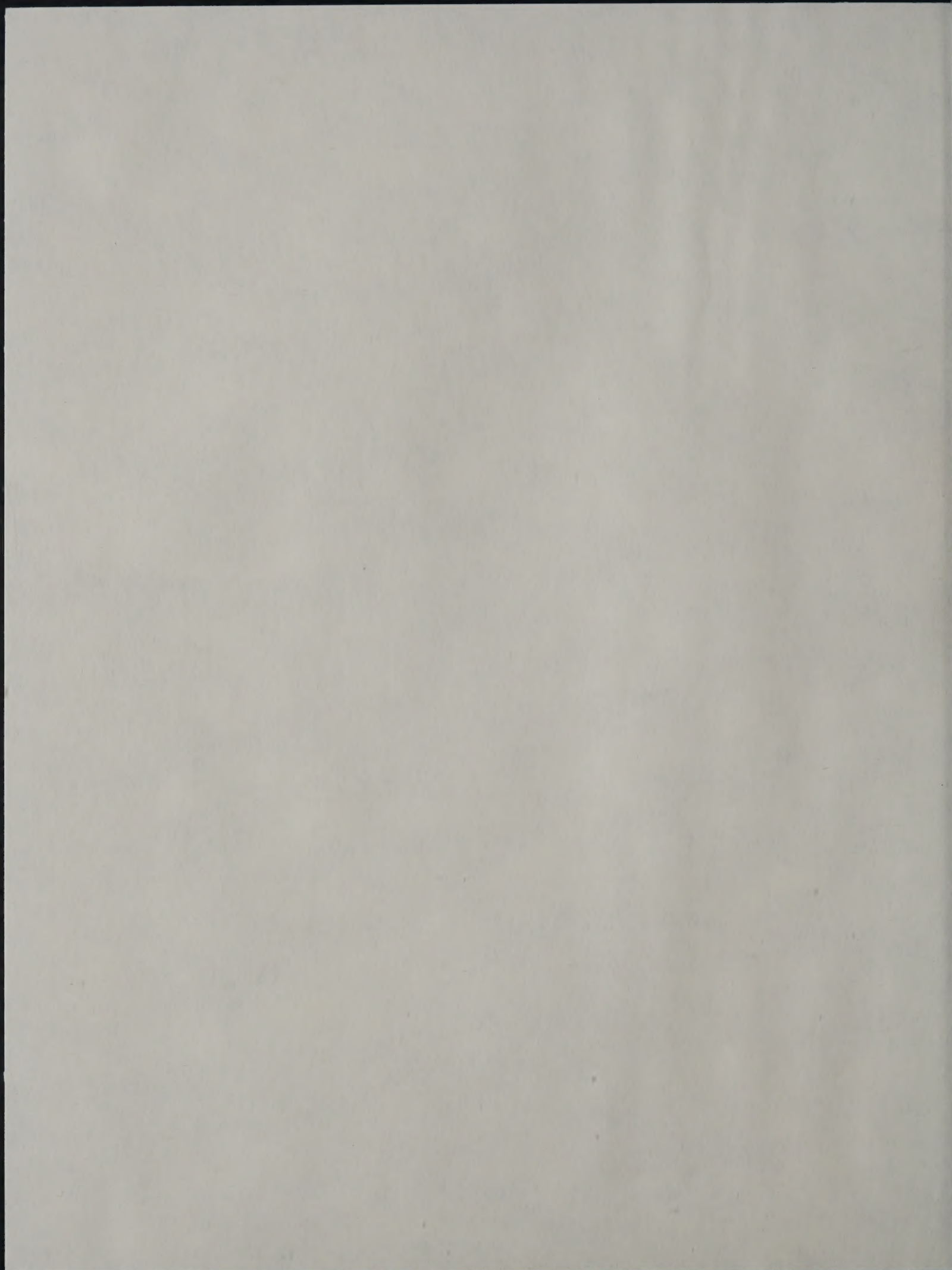
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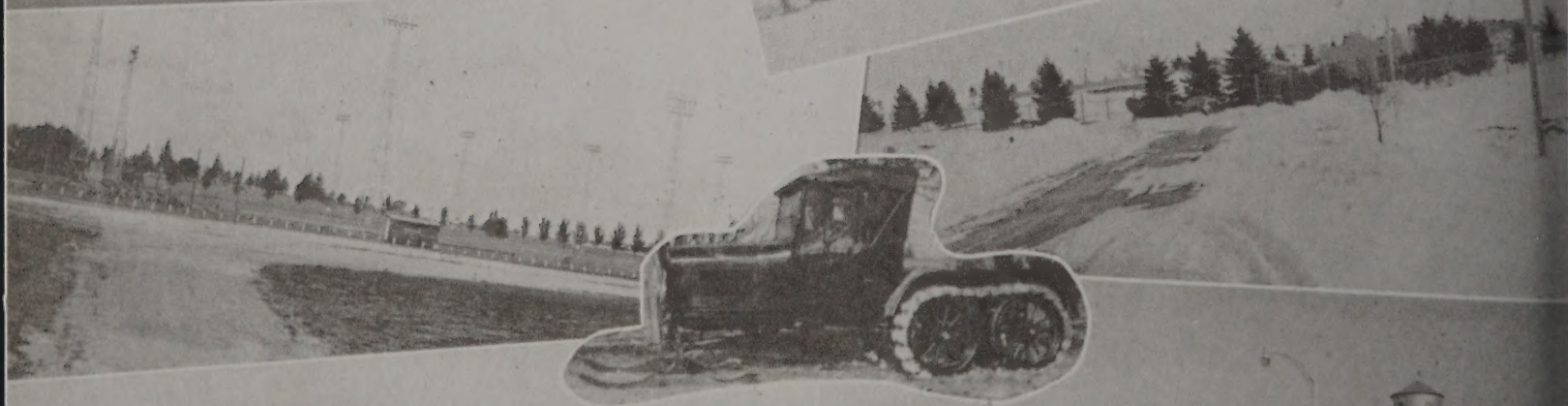
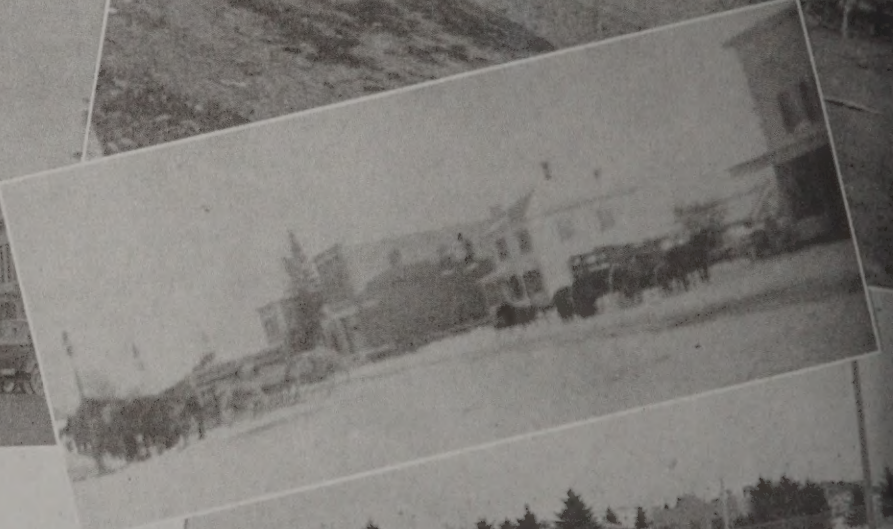
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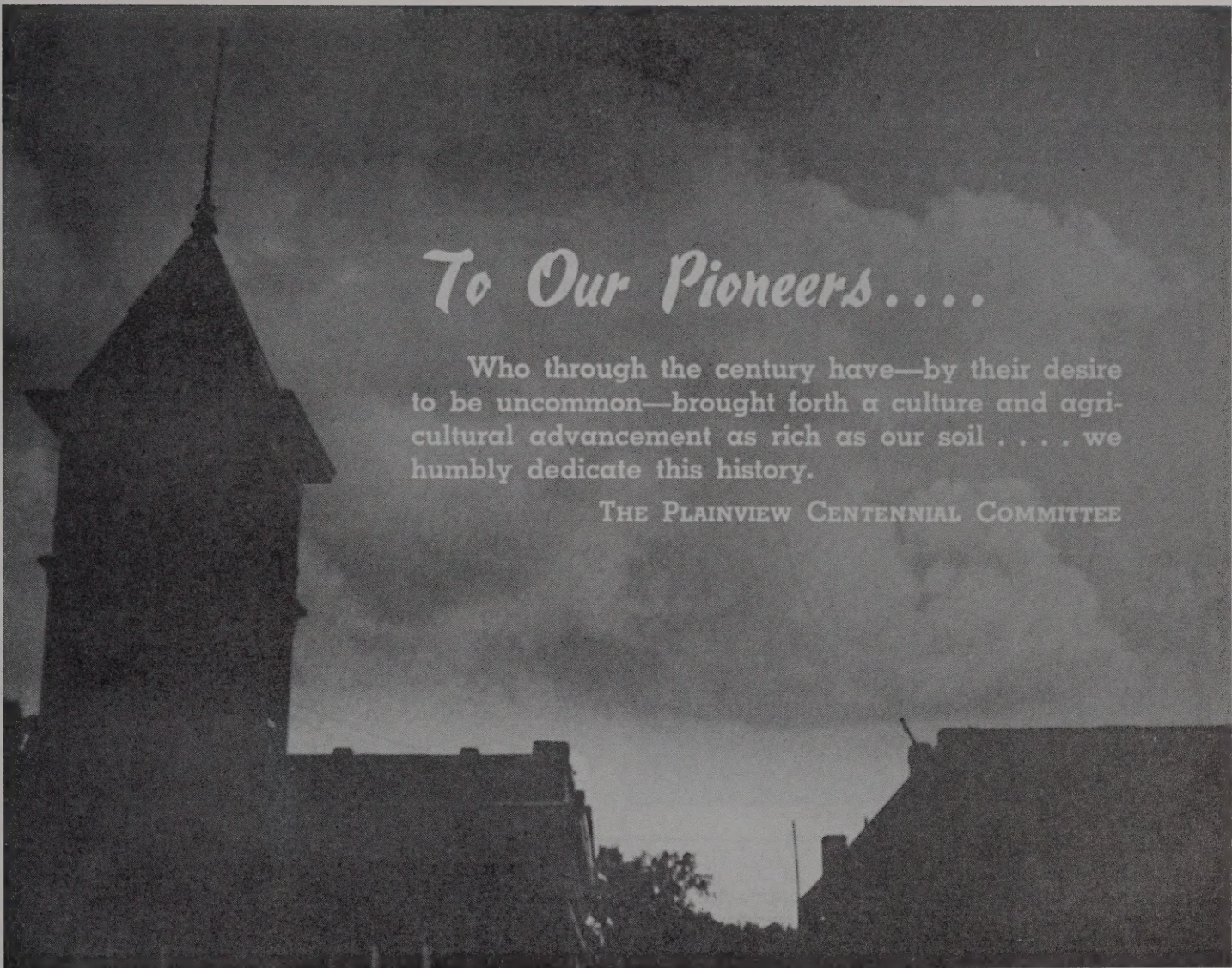
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PLAINVIEW



Plateau of Plenty





To Our Pioneers....

Who through the century have—by their desire to be uncommon—brought forth a culture and agricultural advancement as rich as our soil we humbly dedicate this history.

THE PLAINVIEW CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

We Cannot start this book without giving credit where much credit is due . . . so first we offer our most genuine thanks to the Plainview Travelers Club for their fine effort in compiling this commemorative book for us.

It is our good fortune—and yours—to bring you the priceless recording of our pioneer life by Mr. Irvin Washington Rollins, and we are most grateful to his family for their willingness to share these diaries.

We are indebted to the Minnesota Historical Society for the use of early census records and newspapers, as well as the invaluable assistance of each and every one of their staff members—also to Mack Publishing Company for their newspaper files dating back to 1899—and to every person who has volunteered property of historical value or assistance of any kind.

THE PLAINVIEW COMMERCIAL CLUB

Sponsoring

1856..... The Plainview Centennial..... 1956

The Reign of the Indians



Chief Wabashaw III

Although our vast prairie never appealed to the Indians because they preferred to headquarter near woods and water, our early settlers found numerous Indian trails leading over our plateau from the Zumbro to the lower Whitewater and Mississippi.

Our land was ranged by the M'daywakanton band of the Sioux. Among their leading chiefs was Wapashaw I, born about 1720, who despite his mother's being a beautiful Chippewa princess, frequently waged fierce warfare against the Chippewa nation. After the French fur trade had dwindled by the French treaty of 1763 relinquishing title to our land to England, Wapashaw I went to Quebec to implore the British to take his people under their protection and to exchange ammunition and goods for the Sioux furs, returning with 7 medals for each of his tribes, a gaudy uniform with red cap and full British cooperation . . . However, although he led 1,000 Sioux to Prairie du Chien awaiting British instructions to fight their battle in the Revolution, he respected the fact that war had ceased.

Wapashaw II who had succeeded his father to the chieftainship some time prior to his death in 1806, was opposed to war but was sometimes led into it by his hot-blooded warriors; hence they joined the British side in Ohio in the war of 1812. Wapashaw II urged the marriage of the early traders and the Indian

maidens, and a great many half-breed families commenced to spring up. It was during his reign that the treaty of 1830 was signed at Prairie du Chien setting aside the famous Half-Breed Tract, an area of 450 square miles, by drawing a line starting at the Barn Bluff in Red Wing and extending southwestward to a point in Section 24 of Plainview township and thence northeast to the Mississippi, in Section 12 of Greenfield township, thus taking in part of Goodhue, much of Wabasha and a tip of Winona County. This Half-Breed Tract was doubtless created through the influence of the Indian traders who had married Indian women, several of the most prominent early families of Wabasha being related to Wabashaw III by marriage or descent.

When Wapashaw II died in 1834, his son spelled the name with a "b" instead of a "p". He became Wabashaw III and moved his band from Wabashaw Prairie (now Winona) to the mouth of the Zumbro six miles below Wabasha. Chief Wabashaw and his band summered at Sand Prairie and Tepeeotah.

In the treaty of August 5, 1851, provision was made for the purchase of this tract by the Government for \$150,000, however this clause was stricken out by the Senate. Later a list of the half-breeds, mostly the children of the traders, was made out and scrip was issued entitling each to 480 acres, the location within the tract to be chosen by each holder. Gen. Shields brought this scrip to Minnesota for distribution, and immediately a great portion of it was passed on to speculators by the parents or guardians of these half-breeds.

Among the French families in Wabashaw receiving scrip, Joseph Buisson had seven scrips, Alexis Baille had seven, Augustin Rocque's family had 13, Oliver Cratte nine, Monette had four, Trudell had seven, Duncan and Scott Campbell had 23 and Francois laBatte had 10, all good for 480 acres.

Meanwhile, as this scrip was being distributed, settlers had begun to pour into the Half-Breed Tract, many of them making vast improvements before they realized that the status of their land was different from other government lands. Some stayed, taking their own chances even though they knew their possession to be illegal, others secured quit-claim deeds from individual half-breeds or their guardians despite the fact that these papers were valueless since the half-breeds' only rights were in the scrip and could transfer the land only by transferring the scrip. The settlers banded together and sent an envoy to Washington to settle the matter. They succeeded in getting copies of the plats of all the townships included within this tract, and every quarter section upon which a settler had

made improvements was definitely marked. Holders of scrip were publicly warned against filing upon such land, and a vigilante committee formed to prevent scrip "being laid" on land already occupied.

Soon after, the matter was corrected in Washington by granting to the settlers in the Half-Breed Tract the same rights of preemption and homestead as on other Government lands and granting to the scrip holders the right to "lay" their scrip upon any other Government land not already filed upon.

Since few or none of the half-breeds ever cared to settle upon our rich prairie, the situation ended happily with only an occasional repercussion in later years when some half-breed whose guardian had sold his scrip to one of our early settlers would find himself a lawyer and demand that he too be paid. Usually, the farmers would pay the small sum asked since their land had increased considerably in value and they could ill afford the time and expense of a lawsuit.

Wabashaw III, much beloved by his people, continued to do a heavy fur business with the river traders in the early years . . . and many of our settlers took

up the trade where the Sioux left off since our numerous river valleys yielded quantities of beaver, mink, otter, muskrat, badger, silver, red and gray fox, raccoon, marten, bear, wolf, deer and rabbit furs until about 1875.

In an effort to satisfy your and our curiosity, we have done exhaustive research to learn how Chief Wabashaw III lost his one eye. The only clue we could find came from one of our respected Plainview Mainstreeters who suggested that it was probably from a rusty hatpin thrust through a keyhole. He reputedly died in about 1876 at the Santee reservation in Nebraska.

An interesting story is related that during the troubles with the Winnebago Indians Chief Wabashaw was invited at Prairie du Chien to a council. After listening to the Winnebago chiefs and what they proposed doing to the whites, Chief Wabashaw rose and pulling a hair from his head, blew it away, telling the Council that if they harmed a white man he would blow them from the face of the earth as he had blown the hair.

One Hundred Years of Successful Farming

Many early history books tell us that Plainview and Greenwood Prairie have always been devoted to agriculture.

Plainview, rising 465 feet above Kellogg and 95 feet above Elgin, sits in the heart of the broad, rich tableland known as Greenwood Prairie, the veritable watershed of the Whitewater and Zumbro valleys. The best description we have had of our geography came from a recent visitor who, when asked what people "saw" in Plainview, replied, "I don't know what they see, but when I went to the kitchen for a drink of water I saw most of Southeastern Minnesota".

This **Plateau of Plenty** was the prime attraction for our early settlers and became our heritage. Even in 1855 many of our first pioneers came as Mr. Rollins (whose early diaries are found in a later chapter) did with a definite destination—Greenwood, Minnesota.

Within the year eastern newspapers were expounding this vast prairie extending twenty-five miles, all one mass of richness . . . and in 1860 a Chicago

publisher wrote that Wabasha County was fast becoming a favored location both for its productive land and its scenery: "This prairie called Greenwood supposedly is the 'garden spot of the earth'. I haven't seen it but hope to before I die. They picture twenty miles of continuous wheat fields and thirty bushel to the acre."

And we did raise wheat and salvaged yields just that fabulous from the straw stacks for almost twenty years until rust and grasshoppers led us to diversification. Our wheat was hauled over-the-road—sometimes in caravans of forty wagons—to Minneapolis which became the largest wheat riverport in the world.

While the majority of our early comers were Yankees, with a sprinkling of Irish and other nationalities, by 1875 we had gained a goodly number of German farmers who helped us turn from wheat to stock raising and other crops. Corn, barley, clover and oats replaced much of the wheat; and well before the turn of the century we had become widely known not only

for stock raising but also for our so-called garden crops, leading the Northwest as a cabbage market, with dry onions, peas, pickles and sweet corn following.

As early as 1870 many of our farmers started importing breeding stock, both horses and cattle, paying as much as \$3,000 for a Norman stallion. We were soon shipping blooded stock all over the continent, not to mention driving some of the "dandiest" matched teams in the Midwest.

Good farmland attracted good farmers who in turn have kept the land good . . . in fact the last census figures show the average yearly income of our Greenwood farmers to be \$1,000 higher than state average.

Successful farming built the town of Plainview and has maintained it over the years. We can boast

the distinction of being one of very few villages dependent solely upon agriculture whose population has increased rather than dwindled in the last two decades.

Nor have we failed to share our advancement. Just as in the 1870's Thomas A. Thompson set aside his own interests to become, without salary, an exponent and lecturer in furtherance of the Grange movement, today we have our men like Grieve or Wood or Olin or Christison or Petit or Thompson who through farm organization and soil conservation movement are helping to keep agriculture at its highest standard.

We are justly proud of our heritage—our plateau of good rich sod which the wind and weather and glacier gave us. We are not devoted—we are dedicated—to its preservation and best usage.





*The Gods implore not,
Plead Not, Solicit Not;
They Only Offer
Choice and Occasion, which
Being Passed,
Return No More.*

. . . Longfellow

They Came, They Saw, They Settled

Our history is unique in that, despite the hazards of settlement on the Half-Breed Tract, despite the lack of timber and water, despite the distance to markets and established roads, Greenwood Prairie, sometimes called Prairie of Paradise, attracted settlers like a magnet; and once they came and saw, they settled. Very few gave up the ghost and went home or elsewhere, as can be seen in the review of our early census records which for the most part contain names familiar to all of us. Today there are over a dozen farms which have stayed in the same family for the full century and some 30-odd for over 90 years. This tells the story of our **Plateau of Plenty** better than we can tell it.

Probably the first man to break sod on Greenwood Prairie was Nels Oleson, living in a crude turf dugout. With no help other than that of God and one team of oxen, he broke and sowed a few acres of wheat in 1854 on Section 1 of Plainview township, reaping 30 bushels per acre for his effort.

Oleson's son, Oliver Nelson, (who in true Scandinavian custom had taken his father's given name "Nels" with the suffix "son" as his surname and the first name Oliver because his mother's maiden name was Oliverson) with another native of Norway, Andrew Helgerson, (whose daughter Isabella became Mrs. Oliver Nelson in 1856) settled about two miles east of the present village of Plainview. However, in the spring of 1855 they were pushed off their claims by the band of ambitious Yankees who wished to establish the village of Greenville there, so they moved together with Nels Oleson . . . Helgerson into Section 4, of Plainview Township, where he later developed 320 acres, and Nelson and Oleson into Section 32, Highland. They remained here many years, being listed in the 1877 Farmers Directory for these locations.

Early in the spring of 1855 Ezra Eddy and A. T. Sharpe left their native Ohio, heading for the glamorous West without a definite destination in mind. At LaCrosse they met Wm. Boatman and Thomas Todd in a party intending to go to Brownsville, and persuaded them to join in pushing farther north. On May 21, 1855, this little band camped on the high plateau just above the river bluffs, and as they saw the sun rise on the prairie they named it **Greenwood**, the American Eden, and declared their journey ended.

They immediately commenced the construction of homes for their families, none of whom had come with them except those of Eddy and Boatman, talking and planning as they worked of a great metropolis to be named Greenville.

Within 10 days they were joined by A. P. Foster and Benjamin Lawrence and still later Edwin Chapman and David Ackley. Before Fall, the settlement contained some 30 families, all content and reasonably comfortable in their new home.

Early that winter a Mr. Richards who owned a store in Read's Landing opened a branch store in the settlement, and the settlers got together to organize and build their "metropolis". A. T. Sharpe was the self-appointed "town" manager, and they petitioned for a post office, naming their village Greenville. Foster was named first postmaster.

Before Spring Rodman Burchard became a partner of Mr. Richards at Read's Landing and moved his family to Greenville to take charge of the store there, shortly building a larger store and hotel combined. They built a school, opening in June 1856, with Annie White as teacher, and Rev. Jonathan Cochrane took over the ministerial duties using the school house as "meeting" place.

These ambitious men set about to realize their dreams, platting 320 acres (SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 11 and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 10) as their townsite. This plat was signed by A. T. Sharpe, F. S. Richards, William Boatman and Alonzo Foster and was duly recorded in the Register of Deeds office. (See map, page 33)



The Eddy Cabin Built in 1855
Section 13, Plainview Township
Purchased by John Horn in 1875

Other businesses sprang up. A Dr. Kerl built and operated another hotel that season. Business boomed in little Greenville, and investors poured in at the invitation of their town manager, A. T. Sharpe. However, her fate was sealed when in the spring of 1856 a group of disgruntled arrivals, hesitant to build and invest further on land to which they could not get title, broke away and commenced their own settlement just outside the Half-Breed line.

CENTERVILLE SPRINGS UP . . .

In the spring of 1856, Ozias Wilcox, Dr. Federal Gibbs, T. A. Thompson, J. Y. Blackwell, David Ackley and Edwin Chapman laid out another village site on Sections 17 and 18 and named it Centerville. Village lots were then 40 acre tracts. The only building within the two sections was the log house of T. A. Thompson.

Wilcox promptly erected a store building and stocked it. Blackwell built a hotel opened for business on July 4, 1856, and several others commenced to build on their lots. Soon Dr. Gibbs erected a little office and drug store on what is now High Street (later used as a school). Elijah Rittenhouse built a blacksmith shop near where the Methodist Church stands, which later was taken over by Charles Bray who had first settled in Elgin, and David VanWort built a carpenter shop. A stage line which ran intermittently at best was re-routed to include Centerville as well as Greenville al-

though Centerville was denied her petition for a post office.

Thus populated and fortified, the new town went into the memorable winter of 1856-57 which is so well described in Mr. Rollins' diary and which left the settlement literally isolated for six months. Their only salvation was the well-stocked store of Mr. Wilcox. The story is told of the winds sweeping the court around his store bare while drifts several feet high surrounded the court on all sides, the settlers cutting steps into the icy drifts as a means of exit and entrance to his store.

Mr. Blackwell among a few others was so thoroughly disheartened by the long and severe winter that he disposed of his holdings and returned to Iowa before the next Fall. However, before leaving he did assist Ozias Wilcox, T. A. Thompson, Lloyd Yale and Dr. Gibbs with the platting of the village in the early summer of 1857.

THE GREENVILLE GHOST DIES SLOWLY . . .

The platting of Centerville pretty much sealed the fate of Greenville although her people held onto a post office until after 1865 and continued to operate a few small businesses, gradually, one by one, either moving their businesses into Centerville or coming here to start new pursuits. Ezra Eddy broke away from Greenville in the summer of 1857 and bought the Centerville hotel from Mr. Blackwell, running it for many years. Sharpe, apparently of a cosmopolitan bent, left these parts when he awoke from his dream of a metropolis at Greenville.

The last men to give up the ghost of Greenville were T. J. Wadleigh and Rodman Burchard. A cabinet-maker by trade, Wadleigh had early opened a furniture store at Greenville, going to Rochester in 1865 but returning to Plainview in 1877 to become our leading furniture man and undertaker for many years. Rodman Burchard remained in his store and hotel at Greenville until after his wife's death in 1866 when he moved his family to Plainview (his first home here later becoming Plainview's first depot). Boatman continued to farm part of the old townsite, at first on Section 11, buying the Geisinger claim in Section 10 in 1861, but moving to Humbird, Wisconsin, to open a lumber mill in 1871. R. N. White, who when he came in 1856 for his health was already a wood engraver of national fame, settled on Section 11, (the land Mr. Rollins records having sold to Gardner Melendy in March 1856) where he continued to farm until his death in 1883 although he also did considerable work again as an engraver. His daughter, Annie White, was Greenville's first teacher. Another daughter, Emelie, also became a teacher in our first schools and his son, Charles, grew up to be a carpenter in Plainview and later continued on the home farm. Alonzo Foster, who had also owned a mill, left his farm on Section 10 in 1865 and went to Winona, re-

turning to Plainview in 1878. In 1884 his son-in-law, T. G. Bolton, owned all of Section 10, using the last of the old Greenville buildings as a sheepshed.

CENTERVILLE BECOMES PLAINVIEW . . .

In 1858 Centerville's application for a post office was approved but necessitated finding a new name, since another Centerville post office was already established in the state. However, the citizens quickly came to agreement, choosing "Plainview" in view of its prominent position as the watershed of the Zumbro and Whitewater rivers.

Plainview built and progressed rapidly but healthily, never becoming indebted to outside investors in any way, other than by mortgages given to Blackwell when he disposed of his holdings in 1857. Most of these mortgages bore 12% interest and were satisfied before 1870. Our wealth came from the land, many of the early settlers coming here practically without funds. Ozias Wilcox who opened our first store and operated it until his death in 1876, had to borrow \$1,200 in 1856 to carry through his first winter, yet in 1870 was shown with a net worth of over \$100,000 from his dealings in general merchandise and as a grain buyer. Ezra Eddy, who became Plainview's first banker, came to the prairie in 1855 with 37 cents in his pocket.



Thomas Mills Farm in 1875

(SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 28, Plainview Township)

In 1870 Mitchell & Curtis in writing Minnesota county histories recorded Plainview as "an agricultural town almost without parallel", saying further that Plainview owed its fabulous growth and prosperity to its well-chosen site in the heart of the vast Greenwood Prairie and its unusually wide trade area which by 1860 held hardly a claim not only preempted but improved.

THE PRAIRIE BECOMES A MECCA . . .

In Plainview township we have already recorded the first settlers in Greenville. In other parts, settlement came just as fast. **Woodland** claims were almost all preempted in early 1856 because of its excellent timber and water supply. That spring the community consisted of the Hiram and Milton Smiths (whose

wife's parents the John Leiningers followed shortly), the three Sylvester brothers, George Evans, Solomon Fox, Jonathan Ingalls, the Casswells, the Bails and many others. The first Woodland post office was opened in 1857 at the George Sylvester home.

Woodland with its deep timber ravines always seemed to get more snow than the prairie. Mrs. Will Hassig, a life-long resident there, recalls one early winter when Napoleon Hassig with his neighbors cut a large tree just above the snow line. After the snow melted, they cut the stump just above the ground and from it made two meat blocks, three feet high and four feet across.



1900 Model Wood Saw—6 H.P.

(Hassig Farm in Woodland)

Just west of Woodland, Seth McCarty was the only settler in 1855, but by 1856 he had for neighbors the Hitchcocks, Bowens, Griffins, Mills, Ames, Browns and Tysons. A post office named Independence was established at McCarty's house in 1857 but was discontinued in 1862. Thomas Mills was a pioneer in garden produce, marketing the first strawberries at Plainview, and his son, Walter, later invented the first onion crates and built the first onion storage house on the prairie.

The northeastern part of the township also filled early despite its hazardous location within the Half-Breed Tract. Valentine Cook, Alonson Wood, Thomas Smith and John Needham, whose families are still tilling the same acres, were all producing wheat by the summer of 1856. Betsy Hall, a widow, ran the Half-Way House just north of Centerville, her location supposedly being halfway between Rochester and Wabashaw. Her son George farmed nearby.

The Melendy brothers, who also established a mill down in the Whitewater valley, stayed on their original claims and increased their acreage. Captain John Burnham settled on Section 3 in 1856 and became our first justice of the peace . . . holding the first court, marrying the first couple (William Collins and Emeline Jolly, stepdaughter of William Boatman) and approving the bonds of the first Greenville postmaster. He married Benjamin Lawrence's daughter who traveled with him while he spent over five years in the militia in the Indian and Civil Wars.

James Butts, whose daughter married Myron Smith, came in early 1857 and became an influential figure in both town and village life. A veritable giant of a man with a heavy red beard, he gained recognition the first year for cutting 9 cords of wood in 8½ hours.

Jonathan Colby and his son Loyal spent some time here with relatives on their way back from the California gold rush, returned to Vermont and in 1858 brought back seven much-needed horses, driving them almost all the way.

A. B. W. Norton, later known as Squire Norton, came in 1857, settling on Section 6. In 1859 he built the first substantial building in Plainview, a general store, on the corner of Broadway and Washington Streets, later occupied by the Cornwell Hardware.

FARTHER NORTH IN HIGHLAND . . .

The first cabins were built in 1855 by Patrick McDonough and John Canfield in the north and Nels Oleson and Oliver Nelson in the southwest. Before the close of that year, many, including Michael Costello, Patrick Herney, James Felton, Silas Smith and Wm. Cleveland had built homes in Highland, although improvement was slow because of the uncertainty of securing title or even being allowed to remain in the Half-Breed Tract.



Beaste Sheltere—Buckhorn Tavern

(Picture taken in 1898 when James Liddell used it as haymow)
Section 24, Highland. Miss Jennie Liddell on ladder.

The three Doane brothers, two of whom were bachelors and whose sisters, Mrs. Washburn and Mrs. Whitney settled nearby in Plainview township, came in 1855, hauled the lumber for Plainview's first hotel in 1856. The third generation of Doanes still live on the original Robert (Merritt) Doane farm.

In 1857 Thomas Smith who had earlier staked a claim just south in Plainview township returned from Read's Landing and built and stocked a store on the Plainview-Wabasha route. He petitioned for a post

office which was dubbed Smithfield, however his store burned and he went back to farming before the post office was granted. James Felton became the first Smithfield postmaster in 1859. E. J. Dugan built another store and hotel the same year but closed it in 1865 when Plainview had become the trade center of the area. Smithfield also had an early blacksmith shop on the present site of the vinery and later had a creamery. Early blacksmiths were Slayton and Feils.

In 1856 Daniel Watkins erected a sawmill on West Indian Creek, changing over to a gristmill in 1861. This mill was purchased by Stephen Appel, an 1859 arrival, in the middle 70's and known as Appel's mill for many years. A store was opened near the mill by Alfred Lathrop who became the first "Lyons" postmaster in 1862. Henry Hampe in 1866 erected a gristmill two miles below the Watkins Mill, and Lawrence Appel, brother of Stephan, started a blacksmith shop.

C. G. Dawley arrived from the California gold rush early in 1857, settling on Section 26, Highland, and promptly becoming prominent in town affairs. He was both teacher and postmaster for many years, as well as a town officer and Judge of Probate.

George Carpenter who came in 1856 became widely known as a thresher, reputedly owning the first steam threshing machine on Greenwood Prairie.

"WEST GREENWOOD", LATER ELGIN.

Which lent only a tiny corner to the Half-Breed Tract, settled and improved faster than their neighbors, many preempting the second year for the government price of \$1.25 per acre. The first settlers were George and Curtis Bryant, Henry Atherton and George Farrar, who camped on April 1, 1855, about a half mile south of the present village on the bank of the Whitewater, then a vigorous stream; and the following morning they set out to build a "community" cabin on the spot, moving into their new home a week later. The cabin stood for many years, being removed by John Q. Richardson in 1878 to make room for the railroad right-of-way.



Franklin Meachum Farm in 1870

Section 11, Elgin Township
(Most of the 250 trees he bought from Mr. Rollins must have lived)

By March of 1856 the community contained over 30 families including the Rollins and Dickerman brothers who moved there from their earlier claims in Greenville. That summer a hotel was built, a post office opened in 1857, but Elgin had no store until 1863 when Albert Glines first stocked groceries and drygoods at the John Houghton house and in February 1864 moved the granary from his farm to the corner of Main and Mill Streets and rebuilt it into a store. Prior to that time their trading was done at Greenville and Plainview.

In 1860 Parr and Ellis built a gristmill at the foot of Mill Street, but it had long stood idle for lack of waterpower when it was demolished in the 1883 cyclone.

Elgin township very early could boast of outstanding farms and farmers. In the southern tier, both Irvin and Orvis Rollins made their mark not only in wheat and diversified farming, but had the first nurseries in these parts, having planted six quarts of apple seed in their first cabin at Greenville in 1856. Irvin took the first premiums offered at both state and county fairs in fruit and bee culture.

John Q. Richardson also made history with his large maple sugar camp. He pioneered in the use of soft maples, establishing a grove of over 1,000 fine maples, attracting hundreds of visitors each year and helping others to establish groves.

In the northwest, William Gien settled in 1856, enduring many privations to leave an estate still enjoyed by the third generation.

Early in 1857 Franklin Meachum and Joseph Marshall came together from Vermont and settled on Section 3. Marshall a few years later sold this tract and purchased 240 acres adjoining where he specialized in dairy and stock raising. He reared a family of 16 children, many of whom became prominent in our later history. Mr. Meachum also sold his first claim, acquiring 420 acres in Section 3, 10 and 11, engaging as a stock buyer.



Millville Bridge—Zumbro Flood, June 23, 1908

(Photographer caught the last traffic on the bridge before the roaring Zumbro took it downstream)



Famous Potsdam Mill in 1873

Owned and operated by W. H. Gerths over 35 years, it had the largest wheel in the Northwest.

IN OAKWOOD, THEN CALLED PELL.

Our first colony led a bachelor life in huts and their wagons the winter of 1856, among them William Tope, David and James Foley, Lawrence and Patrick Tracey, and Matthew Kinsella. Also Patrick Fleming, Patrick McQuigan, Henry Martin, James McPike, Bernard McNulty and John Behrns.

Pell's first village was Bremen, founded in 1864 by John Behrns who built a store and hotel. Later, a Lutheran church was erected there, becoming a landmark over the years.

Mass was held from 1858 at the homes of David Foley and Matthew Kinsella until the St. James Catholic Church was built in 1866. The Norwegian Methodists built a church in 1873.

The first road in Pell was a prairie trail toward Plainview. The building of the Minnesota Midland narrow gauge railroad later provided a ready market and helped to build new settlements.

Pell, slow to develop because of its location in the Half-Breed Tract as well as its inaccessibility to markets, made headlines in the early 1860's when an assessor whose legs were stronger than his English substituted the word "piano" for "plow". His report showed Pell the most cultured town in the state, with two more pianos than people.

FARMINGTON

Early attracted good farmers, most of them natives of Germany. In 1855 Z. Tumbleson, Junia Lathrop, Conrad Schacht, Robert Moody and a Mr. Ball staked claims. 1856 brought still more pilgrims—among them John Walker, William Searles, four Bakers, Haven Schacht, Fred Kohn, Martin Guhrt, William Kutsky, and Peter Yonk. Several settlements sprang up, but the only one which lasted was Potsdam, started by a group of enterprising Germans in about 1860. Louis Quentin built a harness shop, Mr. Goodert a blacksmith shop, and John Ingleby a store, run for many years by Herman Reiter. Theodore Tornow built a hotel, and in 1875 Potsdam built a large Lutheran church and later a parochial school.

Potsdam was most conspicuous in early years for her mill, built in 1873 for \$6,000. A large windpowered flour and feed mill with two runs of stone, it did a fine business until its fate was sealed by two horrible accidents. In 1876 a young blacksmith named McCarron was crushed to death when he mounted the tower to stop the mill in a strong windstorm. Less than two years later Emil Seeman, a German miller, climbed aloft to oil the "wily" wheel and was hurled down 30 feet against the timbers of the mill when a 1½ ton wheel broke and crushed the platform on which he was standing. The big wheel was removed and the mill run in later years by gasoline power.



Six Oaks School in 1903

Francis Murphy; Nina Scott; Florence Har; Clara, Arthur and George Lamprecht; Grace Scott; Miss Mae Ordway, teacher.

QUINCY . . .

South of Plainview, Mason and Irving Wetmore and D. D. Woodard built a sawmill on the Whitewater in northeast Quincy in the spring of 1854, furnishing lumber to the surrounding area for many years and building the nucleus for the **SIX OAKS** settlement.

Among the 1855 Quincy settlers were Jairus Richards, Norman Libby, Mason and W. H. Hatfield, George Logan, Nick Murphy, O. S. Ford, Harvey Bush,

Thomas Stevenson, Alfred Olds, and George Smith, while 1856 saw an even greater pilgrimage with most of the land preempted fast. That year brought Gideon Lewis, Sam Tenney, George Hinton, John Weagant, Samuel Evans, John Bush and Joseph Olds. George Evans, who had settled in Woodland, moved farther up the Whitewater into Viola (beyond Dogs' Corners) the following year, making "Evans Lane" as it was called in the earlier years complete. The first birth in Quincy (some histories say the first in the area) was Willie Woodward in 1855. His parents also followed the Whitewater upstream in 1856 into Elgin township and were among the first in the region to build a frame house.

In 1857 Charlie and Fred Johnson built a gristmill on the middle branch of the Whitewater, and a store, post office and blacksmith shop were shortly established. Known as Quincy Mills, the settlement was a thriving little outpost until 1876, when a cloudburst took out the dam and wrecked many of the buildings. Six Oaks and Little Valley also established post offices and stores near their schools, both being on the St. Charles-Plainview stage route.

Samuel Evans for many years told the story of that rugged first winter 1856-57 which lasted from October until June. He recalled how his brother George Evans, working for Gus Schmitt, went out to plant corn on a May morning and brought back a load of snow for his wife to wash with instead.



Lewis Mill at Beaver

Pictured on platform: Mrs. Margaret (Lewis) McCue, Mrs. Belle (Lewis) Patchin, Miss Grace Wright and Will Lewis, Jr.

WHITEWATER TOWNSHIP . . .

Our early travel took us through the Whitewater Valley to Minneiska where we sold our wheat and to Winona where the early land office was located. Whitewater Falls was an early settlement just above Beaver. In 1854 Whitewater pioneers included Stephen Covey, John Cook, F. C. Putnam, William Dooley, William Wood and Albert Scrivens. Before 1856 (the year Beaver was laid out) many more staked claims and established early mills and stores. Among them were A. J. McRay, Pliney Putnam, Lyman Young, Oliver Porter, Nathan Fisher, William Vilander, Louis Skidmore, Leonard Robinson and Nathan Warner. Shortly they were joined by John and H. B. Knowles (whose stockfarm became famous), Dr. Sheldon Brooks and J. W. Hayes. All that remains today of the once thriving Whitewater Falls is the cemetery, while even Beaver has suffered heavily as a victim of soil erosion.

ELBA . . .

Like Whitewater, settled early, but suffered heavy and frequent damage to her mills as well as farmlands by frequent floods. Then as now a haven for fishermen, its scenery was widely advertised in even the early times. In 1854 the first settlers of record were Robert Crooks and F. McCarty. In 1855 came A. E. Todd (who built the first sawmill), D. J. Todd, D. R. Holbrook, L. U. Todd, W. Telugan, Peter Kiefer, Andrew Burger, A. D. Nichols, H. D. Daily and the Philbrick Brothers. A log school was built in 1855 and taught by Alva Philbrick. The famous Fairwater Flouring Mill later owned by the Todds was built in 1866 by Parr and Ellis.

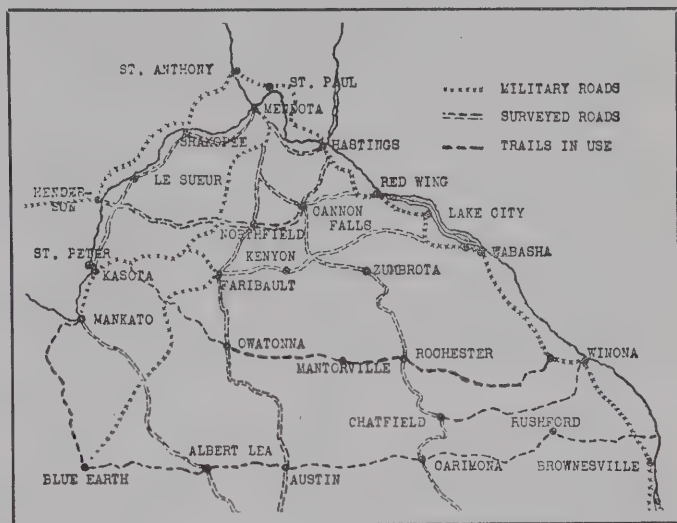


Todd Mill at Fairwater

One pair of dangling feet belong to Miss Dorothy Todd.

Whitewater State Park, now a mecca for nature lovers from far and wide, has preserved several thousand acres of the pioneer glory and pastoral beauty of the lower Whitewater valley. Its trout streams, golf course, natural swimming pool—and of course the world's most perfect tree on the Main Street of Elba—have all added to its attraction as one of Minnesota's vacationlands for many years.

* * * *



MINNESOTA TRIANGLE ROADS IN 1854



MINNESOTA TRIANGLE ROADS IN 1860

(Maps from Minnesota Historical Society)

Our Early Census

The census of 1850 showed nary a white settler in any of our surrounding townships; however, by 1857 the Minnesota Territory had become so heavily populated that the Government ordered a special census that summer. The Hon. John B. Downer of Wabasha completed this first census of the county, traveling the entire county by foot and turning in his records in October, 1857.

We have attempted to copy these records which are preserved at the Minnesota Historical Society but one hundred years later it is "just a little difficult", what with the aging by Time of ink and paper, to decipher the script and omissions in our translation.

We must remember too that only a few of our earliest settlers could read and write, therefore the admixture of our Yankee, Irish, German and Scotch population presumably had some little trouble always understanding each other. The German names suffered the most abuse. For instance, it was interesting to study the records from 1860 through 1905 and to find a name first spelled "Shoecart" changed suc-

sively to Shuecard, Schugart, Schugardt and finally to the "Schuchard" so common in this area today.

In September 1857 Plainview township by count had 80 dwellings with 82 families, while in June 1860 there were 386 residences with 352 families (which could mean that either 34 early cabins had been abandoned or 34 families enjoyed two homes).

The statistics available for our neighboring area in those early years are here—we hope for the same enjoyment we have had in studying it.

TOWNSHIP (incl. villages)	1857	1860	1870	1950
Plainview	430	549	1365	2162
Elgin	192	330	878	1010
Highland	123	317	716	460
Oakwood	59	267	740	433
Elba	80	164	681	335
Whitewater	280	274	435	332
Farmington	80	186	937	598
Quincy	240	576	807	469
Viola	120	422	728	640

1860 CENSUS

These census records cover Plainview's four most immediate townships: Plainview, Elgin, Highland and Oakwood (then called Pell).

PLAINVIEW TOWNSHIP

Name	Age	Wife	Birthplace	Occupation
*Ball, Edwin	36	Adeline	N. Y.	farmer
*Bancroft, G.	43	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
*Bean, John	37	Sarah	N. H.	farmer
*Bigham, Wm.	55	Susan	N. Y.	farmer
*Boatman, Wm.	43	Charlotte	Ohio	farmer
Bowen, Ernestine	18	—	Vt.	servant
Bowen, Ina	26	Olive	N. Y.	farmer
Bowen, Wm.	52	Rosane	Vt.	farmer
**Bray, Chas.	34	Ellen	Maine	blacksmith
*Brooks, Rueben	50	Esther	N. Y.	farmer
Brown, A. M.	31	Margaret	Vt.	laborer
*Brown, Alfred	37	Maria	N. H.	farmer
*Brown, James	36	Phoebe	Ind.	farmer
Bryan, Frank	32	Mary	Mich.	farmer
*Burchard, Rodman	50	Esther	N. Y.	storekeeper
Burchard, Judd	40	—	N. Y.	laborer
Burdick, A. W.	27	Lucy	Vt.	farmer
Burnham, Geo.	23	—	N. H.	farmer
**Burnham, John	30	—	N. H.	farmer
Butts, James	28	Anna	Ohio	farmer
Canfield, Elizabeth	15	—	Pa.	servant
*Carpenter, George	28	Lucy	Pa.	farmer
Carroll, G. W.	35	Eliza	Ohio	laborer
*Casswell, Seneca	36	Alvina	N. Y.	farmer
*Churchill, Eben	24	—	N. H.	farmer
Clark, L. P.	30	Alvina	N. Y.	millwright
Colby, G. H.	35	Emma	N. H.	farmer
*Collins, Wm.	25	Emeline	N. Y.	carpenter
*Cook, Valentine	35	Mary	Germany	farmer
**Crawford, John	54	Mary	Ireland	farmer
**Davis, Daniel	25	Virginia	N. Y.	farmer
Davis, Wm.	23	—	Pa.	laborer

*Shows persons listed in the same township in 1857.

**Shows persons listed in one of the other three townships in 1857.

Plainview Township—1860 Census (Cont.)

Name	Age	Wife	Birthplace	Occupation
*Dickerman, Ezra	25	Harriet	Vt.	farmer
*Eddy, Ezra B.	30	Jane	Ohio	farmer
Ellis, H.	40	—	Mass.	millwright
Farnsworth, Ebenezer	22	—	N. Y.	farmer
Felton, James	32	Anetia	N. Y.	farmer
*Foster, A. P.	44	Lorenda	Vt.	farmer
Foster, Bringham	29	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
*Fox, Solomon	39	Emeline	Ohio	farmer
French, Geo. C.	26	Lucy	Pa.	laborer
Frickey, Julius	31	Annette	Germany	harnessmaker
Furnham, R.	24	Roxane	N. Y.	farmer
*Gaylord, S. H.	30	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
*Gibbs, F. C.	45	Sarah	N. Y.	doctor
Golding, Warren	42	Almira	N. Y.	farmer
Goss, Francis	39	Lavinia	Vt.	farmer
Gray, Joshua	54	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
Griffing, Chas.	26	Jane	Conn.	farmer
*Hall, Geo. R.	24	Electa	Canada	farmer
*Hall, Betsey	47	(widow)	Canada	farmer
*Harrington, Geo. W.	33	Martha	Vt.	farmer
Harris, Chauncy	24	Elizabeth	Canada	farmer
*Helgerson, Andrew	40	Christena	Norway	farmer
Hipple, Henry	25	—	Pa.	blacksmith
*Hitchcock, John	45	Mary	England	farmer
*Hodskin, John	59	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
Ingalls, Wm.	24	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
Jaqueth, James	38	Sarah	N. H.	attorney
Judel, Whitney	31	Martha	Mass.	farmer
Kentwood, R. W.	32	—	N. Y.	laborer
Kibbey, V. E.	35	Mira	N. Y.	farmer
*Kimberly, Wm.	32	—	N. Y.	farmer
Lawrence, Ada	18	—	Vt.	teacher
*Lawrence, Benj.	47	Jarusha	Mass.	farmer
*Leininger, John	44	Catherine	Pa.	farmer
Marshall, Joseph	32	—	N. Y.	laborer
May, August	35	—	Pa.	laborer
*McCarty, Amelia	28	—	Pa.	seamstress
*McCarty, Seth	52	Rebecca	Pa.	farmer
*McMillan, Wm.	44	Phoebe	Ireland	farmer
*Melendy, Carleton	50	Adeline	Vt.	farmer
*Melendy, G. M.	33	—	Vt.	farmer

Plainview Township—1860 Census (Cont.)

Name	Age	Wife	Birthplace	Occupation
*Mills, Thos.	32	Elizabeth	England	farmer
*Minor, Russell	40	Eureka	Mass.	farmer
Mohan, Thos.	38	Margaret	Ireland	farmer
*Needham, John	30	—	N. Y.	farmer
*Norton, A. B. W.	41	—	N. Y.	merchant
Perry, Elisha	39	Betsy	N. Y.	farmer
Pogson, John	26	—	Vt.	farmer
Pomery, Albert	30	Laura	Ohio	blacksmith
*Purvis, Samuel	31	Mary	Scotland	farmer
*Robbins, John D.	46	Jane	Mass.	farmer
Sargent, A. L.	29	Hilda	N. Y.	carpenter
Sargent, Chas.	24	—	Vt.	farmer
Sheldon, Alice	17	—	N. Y.	servant
Shirling, Jos.	22	—	N. Y.	farmer
Smith, Hiram	30	Adeline	N. Y.	farmer
Smith, Julia	60	(widow)	Ireland	farmer
*Smith, Milton	25	Margaret	N. Y.	farmer
Smith, Oscar	24	—	Pa.	farmer
*Smith, Peter	66	Hannah	N. J.	farmer
*Smith, Thos.	35	Ellen	Ireland	farmer
Smyth, Abryn	31	Lizzie	N. H.	farmer
Snyder, Jonas	20	—	Ohio	laborer
Somers, Wm.	36	Jane	N. Y.	farmer
Stafford, Amos	56	Tabitha	N. Y.	farmer
*Starkweather, Halo	35	Harriet	Vt.	farmer
Stillman, Stanley	32	Orisa	Vt.	farmer
Stockwell, S. M.	44	—	Vt.	cabinetmaker
Stone, Wm.	31	Margaret	Canada	farmer
*Stratten, J. C.	31	—	Mass.	farmer
Sylvester, Franklin	25	Emma	Maine	farmer
*Sylvester, G. W.	32	Matilda	Maine	farmer
*Thompson, Thos.	38	Elizabeth	Ohio	farmer
*Thompson, Wm.	42	Hester	Tenn.	farmer
Tien, Andrew	39	Hannah	Prussia	mason
*Todd, Thos.	41	Matilda	Va.	farmer
*Trace, Ferdinand	42	Charlotte	Pa.	farmer
*Tyson, Joseph	39	Mary A.	England	farmer
*Wadleigh, T. J.	39	F. P.	Vt.	cabinetmaker
*Washburn, Esther A.	40	(widow)	N. Y.	farmer
Weld, Zebina	30	Sarah	Maine	farmer
*White, Anna E.	25	—	Ill.	preceptress
White, Chas.	32	Martha	Vt.	hotel keeper
*White, Emily	19	—	Ill.	preceptress
*White, R. N.	51	(widower)	N. Y.	engraver
*Whitney, W. C.	38	E. S.	N. Y.	farmer
*Wilcox, Ozias	36	Martha	N. Y.	merchant
*Wiley, Hugh	27	—	Pa.	farmer
*Wilson, Hugh	40	—	Pa.	postmaster
*Wood, Alanson	27	Anette	N. Y.	farmer
*Yale, John	39	Almina	N. Y.	clerk
Yetter, John	23	Abby	Ohio	farmer

ELGIN TOWNSHIP

Name	Age	Wife	Birthplace	Occupation
Allen, Hiram	60	Phoebe	Vt.	farmer
Barnard, Theresa	36	—	Ohio	teacher
*Browitt, Abram	38	Martha	Ireland	farmer
*Brown, Wm.	33	Rebecca	Ind.	farmer
*Bryant, Geo.	35	Polly	Vt.	farmer
*Bryant, John	70	Lavina	N. H.	farmer
*Chapman, Edw.	28	Jane	Ohio	farmer
Chapman, Rufus	65	Harriet	Ohio	farmer
Clark, Joel	40	Rebecca	Mich.	farmer
*Clipperton, Thos.	25	Jane	N. Y.	farmer
*Cockran, Jonathan	53	Amarylis	N. H.	clergyman
*Cook, Wm.	39	Anna	England	farmer
Crawford, Oliver	50	Mary	Pa.	clergyman
Culbertson, Morgan	34	Elizabeth	Ohio	farmer
Cummings, John	40	Ardilla	N. Y.	farmer
Dingman, W. W.	29	Helen	Mass.	farmer
*Dodge, Erastus	52	Mercy	N. Y.	farmer
*Elliot, Absolum	40	Charlotte	Ind.	farmer
Emerson, Carlos	34	Oressa	Maine	carpenter
*Farrar, George	27	Emeline	Vt.	farmer

Elgin Township—1860 Census (Cont.)

Name	Age	Wife	Birthplace	Occupation
Ferguson, A. L.	14	—	N. Y.	—
*Fisk, Jona	55	—	Vt.	farmer
*Frayer, Warren	39	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
Gardner, Marshall	40	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
*Giem, Andrew	42	Martha	Prussia	farmer
*Glines, Albert	36	Olive	Canada	farmer
*Gould, Benj.	61	—	Maine	farmer
*Gould, Benj. H.	35	Elizabeth	Maine	farmer
*Hancock, Samuel	52	Sarah	Pa.	farmer
Ketchum, Geo.	22	—	N. Y.	farmer
*Kimball, Wm.	46	Helen	N. H.	farmer
*Laird, Leonard	31	Hannah	Vt.	farmer
Latimer, David	25	Martha	Canada	farmer
*Leatherman, Joseph	30	Elizabeth	Pa.	farmer
*Lee, Michael	40	Mary	Ireland	farmer
Leland, O. A.	39	Martha	Vt.	farmer
*Marshall, Joseph	32	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
*McCormick, J. B.	36	Harriet	Pa.	farmer
*Meachum, F. L.	30	Sarah	Pa.	farmer
*Metcalf, Caleb	50	Lydia	Canada	farmer
*Patton, John	34	Elizabeth	Scotland	farmer
*Pell, John	28	—	N. Y.	farmer
*Pell, Wm.	25	—	N. Y.	farmer
*Pettinger, Samuel	28	Albertine	Ohio	farmer
Phelps, Nathaniel	25	Mary	Pa.	clergyman
Plattner, John	50	Mary	Germany	farmer
Powell, James	60	Sarah	N. Y.	farmer
*Putnam, F. W.	28	Welthy	N. Y.	farmer
Putnam, Silas	36	Lucy	Vt.	farmer
Quigley, Wm.	19	Sarah	Ohio	farmer
Richardson, H. G.	23	Julia	Vt.	farmer
*Richardson, Joseph	27	Ursula	Vt.	farmer
*Rollins, Irving	31	Ellen	Vt.	farmer
Rollins, Laban	57	Nancy	Vt.	farmer
Rollins, Orvis	25	Mary	Vt.	farmer
Sawyer, Caleb	18	—	N. H.	farm laborer
*Stanchfield, Henry	33	Lydia	Maine	farmer
*Stillman, R. C.	31	Martha	Conn.	farmer
Sweezy, Daniel	25	Mary	Canada	blacksmith
**Town, Gurden	35	Sophrona	N. Y.	farmer
*Town, Wm.	30	Lois	N. Y.	farmer
*Washburn, James A.	32	Katherine	N. Y.	farmer
Wentworth, David	31	—	Canada	farm laborer
*Winters, Benj.	36	—	Ohio	farmer
*Woodward, Wm. D.	34	Martha	N. H.	farmer

PELL (OAKWOOD) TOWNSHIP

Name	Age	Wife	Birthplace	Occupation
Albertson, Wm.	31	Caroline	Norway	farmer
Bairy, Geo.	36	Jane	Denmark	farmer
Bairy, Nicolas	83	Mary	Denmark	farmer
Barnard, J. T.	31	Edna	N. Y.	farmer
Bendschoter, M.	28	Julia	Ohio	farmer
Berns, John	30	Ludwitke	Denmark	farmer
Berns, Abraham	65	Whitca	Denmark	farmer
Berns, Claus	31	Fredrica	Denmark	farmer
Berns, Henry	33	Margaret	Denmark	farmer
Blatner, John	35	Mary	Germany	farmer
Case, Newl	59	Syrepta	Conn.	farmer
Chaplin, I. H.	38	Sarah	N. Y.	millwright
Christofer, C.	46	—	Norway	farmer
Clerman, John M.	32	Mary	Ireland	farmer
Connor, Margaret	25	—	Ireland	servant
Curtis, Elias	28	Maria	Mass.	farmer
Curtis, G. C.	35	Margaret	Mass.	farmer
Dickman, Geo.	55	Whitca	Denmark	farmer
Erickson, John	27	—	Sweden	farmer
Erickson, Peter	36	—	Sweden	farmer
Feehan, Patrick	40	—	Ireland	laborer
Flemming, Charles	23	Mary	Ireland	farmer
*Foley, David	62	Ann	Ireland	farmer
*Foley, James	27	—	Canada	farmer
*Giem, Chas.	35	Anna	Germany	farmer
Gotlebe, Henry	38	Frederica	Germany	farmer
Granonghen, Thos.	40	Mary	Ireland	farmer
Harncome, Geo.	36	Elizabeth	Pa.	tinsmith
Hopkins, I.	39	Margaret	England	farmer
Irish, Ward	38	Charlotte	N. Y.	farmer
Kinslow, Denis	40	Ann	Ireland	farmer

*Shows persons listed in the same township in 1857.

**Shows persons listed in one of the other three townships in 1857.

Oakwood Township—1860 Census (Cont.)

Name	Age	Wife	Birthplace	Occupation
Kinslow, Mathew	36	Catherine	Ireland	farmer
Kinslow, Mathew	35	—	Ireland	farmer
*Knudson, Alling	35	Mary	Norway	farmer
Layhart, Richard	29	Briget	Ireland	farmer
Leonard, Nath.	25	—	N. Y.	laborer
McClaren, Pat'k.	29	Catherine	Ireland	farmer
McGrath, James	33	Ellen	Ireland	farmer
McKley, David	33	Selina	N. Y.	farmer
Nash, Edward	40	—	Ireland	farmer
Olin, Nelson	27	Amanda	Norway	farmer
**Nolan, Patrick	40	Ellen	Ireland	farmer
Perkins, James	30	—	Ireland	farmer
Peterson, Lewis	35	Anna	Sweden	farmer
*Powel, Henry	34	Hannah	Ohio	blacksmith
Pratt, Collins	30	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
Pretzer, Fred'k.	54	Sophia	Denmark	farmer
Rand, John	30	Sarah	N. Y.	farmer
Renward, Robert	30	Jane	N. Y.	farmer
*Roberts, Moses	35	Malona	N. Y.	farmer
Robinson, Byron	32	Martha	Vt.	farmer
Schultz, John	40	Caroline	Germany	farmer
Sheldon, E. H.	46	Yuley	Sweden	farmer
Shoemaker, Geo.	60	—	Germany	farmer
Simpson, John	31	—	England	farmer
Simpson, Joseph	35	—	N. Y.	farmer
Smith, Ira H.	38	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
Stinebern, L.	58	Louisa	Germany	farmer
Taylor, Wm.	35	Amanda	Vt.	farmer
Whitman, John	32	Sarah	N. Y.	farmer
Williams, Geo.	37	Cecelia	Maine	farmer
*Winters, Daniel	22	—	Ind.	farmer
Winters, James	65	—	Pa.	farmer

Highland Township—1860 Census (Cont.)

Name	Age	Wife	Birthplace	Occupation
Martin, Edward	35	—	Conn.	farmer
*Martin, Geo.	35	Ellen	Ireland	carpenter
*McDonough, Patrick	35	Judy	Ireland	farmer
McDonough, Thos.	22	Mary	Ireland	farmer
McNally, Thos.	48	Mary	Ireland	farmer
Murray, Edward	40	—	Ireland	farmer
*Nelson, Oliver	25	Isabella	Norway	farmer
Noll, Peter	35	Harticot	Germany	farmer
Norton, Patrick	35	Mary	Ireland	farmer
*Olson, Nels	52	Ann	Norway	farmer
Paulson, James	38	Mary	Norway	farmer
*Robins, Joseph	36	Elizabeth	Mass.	farmer
Robinson, John	29	Cynthia	Vt.	farmer
Rodney, Patrick	50	Julia	Ireland	farmer
Rowan, James	28	Mary	N. Y.	carpenter
*Ryan, Timothy	27	Ellen	Ireland	farmer
Sander, Edward	30	Elizabeth	Ireland	farmer
Scott, James	75	Elizabeth	Ireland	farmer
*Shoewiler, Frank	28	Eva	Holland	farmer
*Shoewiler, Michael	33	Catherine	Holland	farmer
Smith, Lewis	25	—	N. Y.	carpenter
Smith, Silas	25	Ellen	N. Y.	carpenter
Sullivan, Wm.	23	—	Ireland	farmer
Tibbets, Gardner	55	Clivia	Canada	shoemaker
*Watkins, Daniel	34	—	N. Y.	farmer
*Woodward, Henry	32	Margaret	Vt.	farmer

*Shows persons listed in the same township in 1857.

**Shows persons listed in one of the other three townships in 1857.

SMITHFIELD (HIGHLAND) TOWNSHIP

Name	Age	Wife	Birthplace	Occupation
Appel, Stephan	25	—	Germany	farmer
Baldwin, Meade	30	Sarah	N. Y.	farmer
Barlow, Frederick	29	Maria	Germany	blacksmith
Berton, John	32	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
*Brown, John	42	Hannah	N. Y.	farmer
Burns, Thos.	56	Margaret	Ireland	farmer
*Canfield, John	56	Margaret	Pa.	farmer
Cleveland, James	34	Almira	Vt.	farmer
Cleveland, Wm.	45	Lucida	N. Y.	wheelwright
*Cline, Bartholema	38	Catherine	Prussia	farmer
*Cline, Nicolas	36	Susan	Prussia	farmer
*Costello, Michael	37	Bridget	Ireland	farmer
Crandle, Valney	32	Mary	N. Y.	carpenter
Dawley, Chas.	45	Charlotte	R. I.	farmer
*Doane, Daniel A.	38	—	N. Y.	farmer
*Doane, Robert M.	32	Janet	N. Y.	farmer
*Doane, Samuel	45	—	N. Y.	farmer
Dugan, E.	38	Susanna	N. Y.	farmer
Dugan, Wm.	24	—	N. Y.	farmer
Dunn, James	34	Isabella	Ireland	farmer
Feeny, C. M.	45	Rebecca	Pa.	farmer
Gross, John	45	Elizabeth	Vt.	shoemaker
Hamlin, H. A.	39	Louisa	Maine	farmer
Hamlin, John R.	28	—	Maine	laborer
Hathaway, Stillman	44	Calista	Vt.	carpenter
Hellenan, Thos.	32	Mary	Ireland	farmer
Herney, Patrick	30	Sarah	Ireland	farmer
Howatt, James	26	Agnes	Scotland	farmer
Howatt, John	59	Margaret	Scotland	farmer
Humphrey, Ira	33	Mary	N. Y.	farmer
James, Albert	35	Louisa	N. Y.	farmer
Kane, Michael	30	Mary	Ireland	farmer
Kent, Thomas	48	Margaret	Canada	farmer
Leonard, Peter	40	—	Prussia	farmer
Lidell, David	29	—	Scotland	engraver
Lidell, Margaret	25	—	Scotland	housekeeper
Luft, John	40	Isabella	Ireland	farmer
Lyden, Coleman	25	Hannah	Ireland	farmer

*Shows persons listed in the same township in 1857.

**Shows persons listed in one of the other three townships in 1857.

* * * *

DO YOU REMEMBER when Sunday School was held in the little red (or white) schoolhouses? When Mother cut your hair after your Saturday night bath, and you got up extra early Sunday morning to get the chores done before you "dressed up" for the day?



Sunday School at Smithfield Schoolhouse, 1898

How many faces can you name? We'll give you one clue: Miss Jennie Liddell is the owner of the picture and probably one of the hats.

What's In A Name?

(The origin of the names of our neighbor communities is taken from the Minnesota Historical Society's volume "Minnesota Geographical Names" published by Warren Upham.)

BEAVER, an early village on Beaver Creek, was named by its first settlers for a beaver dam obstructing the mouth of the creek.

DOVER was originally named Whitewater, was shortly renamed for Dover, New Hampshire, home of many of its first pilgrims. In 1855 it was referred to as Drake's Spring.

DUMFRIES, a railway hamlet in Glasgow, came by its name from the town in Scotland which was the home of Robert Burns.

ELBA received its name in 1856 for the island off Italy famed for its rich deposits of iron ore as well as the exile of Napoleon.

ELGIN township was first known as "West Greenwood", and its village called both Paradise and Barre (or by strangers "Yankee Settlement") until in 1856 by a vote of some 60 people it became Elgin for an ancient town and county in Scotland.

EYOTA was named Springfield until 1859 when it was renamed Eyota, meaning in Sioux language "greatest".

FARMINGTON was the popular choice of its early German farmers because of the excellence of the land for farming.

GILLFORD was named for a Mrs. Gill whose husband came in 1855 and took a homestead claim but died on his return to Illinois to bring his family. She, to carry out her husband's dream, made the pilgrimage alone with her small children and courageously built a frontier life.

GLASGOW, first settled in 1855 by a Scotchman and many more of them later, was named for the city in Scotland.

GREENFIELD, whose first claims were staked in 1854, has the name borne by townships and villages in fourteen other states. Sand Prairie was a separate town for the year 1858-59 but was then merged into Greenfield.

HAMMOND was named for Joseph Hammons, an 1856 pioneer who platted the village on his claim.

HAVERHILL was first named Zumbro, then Sherman, and finally in 1866 renamed Haverhill by its many settlers stemming from Haverhill, Mass.

HIGHLAND, first known as Smithfield for its numerous Smiths, was soon named Highland for its elevated surface. Smithfield, a hamlet on the Plainview-Wabasha stage route, retained its original name.

HYDE PARK, at first part of Troy, was named in 1862 for John Hyde, first postmaster of Mazeppa in 1856 and one of its most useful citizens.

JARRETT, a railway hamlet, was near a former crossing of the Zumbro called Jarrett's Ford for the nearest settler.

KEEGAN, another railway hamlet in the north edge of Oakwood, was named for its Irish founder.

KELLOGG, founded in 1870 on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, was named in honor of "a Milwaukee gentleman who furnished the railroad signs". Pauselim, with a population of 70, lying just west of Kellogg, died when Kellogg was born.

LAIRD, a junction on the Plainview-Chatfield railroad, was named in honor of William Laird, founder of Laird-Norton Lumber Company in 1856.

MAZEPPA, settled in 1855, received its name for Ivan Mazeppa, a Cossack chief commemorated in a poem by Byron.

McCRACKEN, a rail station in Glasgow, was settled by William McCracken from Scotland.

MILLVILLE, in the west part of Oakwood, another railway village, was a fine mill site with a water power falling 14 feet.

MINNEISKA, once referred to by our settlers as Whitewater Landing, platted in 1854, in Sioux language means Whitewater . . . "Minne" meaning water and "ska" meaning white. The Whitewater river was first called the Minneiska river but soon changed to its English translation.

OAKWOOD was first named Pell in honor of John H. Pell, early settler who was state senator in 1861 and later captain of Company I of the famous Minnesota First Regiment. Because the name lent itself too easily to "rhyming verse" a group of more sensitive citizens petitioned for a change of name, and in 1868 by act of legislature it became Sherman. However, because another Minnesota township had still earlier received the name Sherman it was finally changed to Oakwood in 1872.

PEPIN was an ancient and honored common French family name.

PINE ISLAND Red Wing, chief of the neighboring branch of the Sioux, held winter camp at what is now Pine Island which they called "Wa-zee-wee-ta", meaning Island of Pines. The island was formed by the middle branch of the Zumbro which circles around the present village, and enclosed a tract once thickly

studded with tall pine trees where Red Wing and his band spent the winters in their skin tents sheltered by the lofty pines. The chief told the U. S. Commissioners when asked to sign the treaty relinquishing their land on the Mississippi that he was willing to sign it if he could have his future home at Wa-zee-wee-ta.

PLAINVIEW township, first called Greenwood, and its village, first called Centerville, received its name because of its "wide horizons" and plain view. The 1950 census lists three other "Plainviews" in the United States: Plainview, South Dakota, with a population of 13; Plainview, Nebraska with 1,427; and Plainview, Texas with 14,044.

POTSDAM was named by its German settlers for their native Prussian city near Berlin.

QUINCY township and its hamlet by the same name were believed to be named by early settlers for Quincy, Mass.

READ'S LANDING was an early French trading post and was named for Charles Read who took charge of the post in 1847. It was platted in 1856 and did a flourishing commercial and river business for about 10 years until it was superseded by Wabasha.

TEPEEOTAH, an early village in Greenfield, was founded in 1856 on an island, former camping ground of Chief Wabashaw III's band. Its name in Sioux means "many houses". The village dwindled in the financial panic of 1857, and on a March night in 1859, its deserted steam sawmill, 3-story hotel, stores and other buildings were burned by incendiarism.

THEILMAN was named for Henry Theilman on whose land it was platted as a railway village.

VIOLA, once named Washington, was renamed at the suggestion of Irwin Wetmore for the village of Viola, Wisconsin.

WABASHA, at first spelled Wabashaw, was named in 1849 as a county commemorating the line of Dakota or Sioux Chiefs who ruled in this area. The county seat, city of Wabasha, platted in 1854, was originally called Cratte's Landing for the earliest white man (Oliver Cratte) to build a home there in 1838.

WAPASHAW, whose third chief changed the spelling to Wabashaw, in Sioux originally meant "red leaf", then "red hat or cap" and was given as a name to their chief who returned from Quebec after the Canadian rebellion in 1763 proudly wearing a soldier's gaudy uniform with red cap presented to him by the English governor.

WATOPA is a Sioux name meaning "to paddle a canoe".

WEST ALBANY was settled in 1855 and named by settlers from Albany, New York.

WINONA, at first called Montezuma, was changed to Winona by Henry Huff who in 1853 platted an addition to and purchased part of the original townsite. The name Winona (Wenonah) was given to the first born (if a daughter) in every Sioux family.

ZUMBRO RIVER originally bore the French name "Riviere des Embarras", meaning a stream on which canoeing was hindered by driftwood. Early settlers, not knowing how to spell or pronounce the French name, made it sound like Zumbro and soon spelled it that way, so the name was re-adapted.

ZUMBRO Township was originally a part of Mazepa and Troy townships which had for each the 36 square miles allotted a township by government survey, but the inconvenience of crossing the Zumbro river led to the organization in 1861 of Zumbro comprising the area east and south of the river, while the north part of Troy was renamed Hyde Park.

* * * *

DO YOU REMEMBER the old Hitchcock Mill which first ground feed and flour on the North branch of the Whitewater between the Hunter and Smith (now Davis) farms? It was later moved a few miles downstream into Poplar Hollow (Quincy) where Charlie LaRocque ran it for many years. We could find no identification of the "Gibson Girls" who are obviously enjoying their outing.



From the Pens of Our Pioneers

Irvin Washington Rollins, son of Labon and Nancy (Colby) Rollins, came with his brother Orvis (called Odd) to Greenville from his native Orange County, Vermont, in the fall of 1855 at the invitation of A. P. Foster, one of our earliest settlers, who also stemmed from the rocks and rills of Vermont. The Rollins brothers were the first of a large "connection," with many other members of the Colby and Rollins family following within a few months.



Irvin Washington Rollins

These Vermonters (or people whose heritage was there) were our first settlers. One must remember that they came from a land of stony hills and fields the size of postage stamps, but nevertheless a land whose society was already 200 years old, proud of her heritage, both intellectually and historically.

Mr. Rollins' first journals start in Vermont in 1847 and tell of his years as a student and schoolmaster at \$18 a month, but underlying his writing is a restlessness for material betterment. In 1854 he met a girl named Ellen Keith, and in the next few months he arrived at the decision to come west to try to make a life and living "suitable to a husbandman."

In the next 40 years Mr. Rollins kept a journal for each year, writing a total of some 300,000 words, and none of them wasted. Our only regret is that we cannot give you his full writings. His descriptions of scenery, the early cabins and everyday happenings are most graphic. He chronicled every birth and every death, always finding time to attend each funeral and to "sit" with the family during illness or death.

He religiously observed the Sabbath, and much of his detailed writing was done then. As the years go on, pages on end contain only entries such as "Weeded beets today" or "split rails" or "grafted trees," yet the very monotony of the reading tells us the steadfast perseverance our pioneers gave to the building and betterment of our community.

The most amazing is his lack of complaint. In 45 years of daily writing, he never criticized a fellow man, and voiced but one complaint (in 1856) . . . that "if it is my lot to live in Minnesota, I do hope we shall have 'society' before too many years pass".

In his Vermont writings, he recites the names of students in his schools, including the names of Colby, Dickerman, Ball, Davis, Mason, Dunbar, Gould, Sanborn, Hutchinson, Bradford, Paine, Eastman, Smith, Town, Sargeant, Richardson, . . . all of whom came here in the next few years among our early settlers.

He and his brother Orvis (Odd) left Montpelier on September 24, 1855, "intending to go to Greenwood, Minnesota, where Mr. Foster is, if we think best when we get to Wisconsin." They traveled by stage, rail and boat, arriving September 28 at Patch Grove, Wisconsin, where their friends, the O'Connells and Dunbars, were. We quote directly from Mr. Rollins:

Sept. 28, 1855: Staid at Patch Grove, found it well settled and organized. Corn looks large compared to Vermont corn. Fields are 40 times as large, wheat stacks are numerous, farmers are threshing.

Oct. 1: Mr. Brown offered me \$1 per day and board to take the school here . . . had a "Sing" in evening.

Oct. 2: Rode around, saw the new meetinghouse and threshing machine at work at Mr. Fitch's. Conclude not to engage to teach here until I go to Minnesota.

Oct. 3: Started on foot for Prairie du Chine, arrived at 4 PM (about 20 miles), bought a double barrel gun, rifle and shot, paid \$25. Took boat at 10 in evening, the Golden Era, for Whitewater Landing. Boat crowded, slept on cabin floor, rested very well.

Oct. 4: LaCrosse is a thriving place, beautifully situated. Arrived at Whitewater at 5 PM, total expenses \$40.28.

Oct. 5: Stopped at Whitewater overnight, had wild honey for supper and breakfast, very good, no butter. Rigged our guns and started for Greenwood. Saw plenty of ducks and chickens but did not kill any, reached Mr. Foster's cabin which is on Section 10, T108N, R11W, at 4 PM.

Oct. 6: Hard frost, went with Mr. Foster to look at land. Saw some beautiful land to SW, killed two prairie chickens. Mr. Foster's cabin is crowded, 12 persons here. Begin to realize what frontier life must be.

Oct. 8: Went out on prairie, looked all day. Good land for fruit and wheat but no timber.

Note: Italics are editor's interpolations.

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Oct. 9: Went to Wettimore's mill (NE Quincy), through some timber, saw 6 or 7 deer. Oak and pine is \$15 to \$20 per M. Springs and water on prairie are scarce, some draw water a mile and a half from a spring, but think most lots will afford very good water by digging 15 to 40 feet.

Oct. 10: Went south, helped Benjamin set his claim stakes. Saw some timber claims farther south but they were taken. Returned and set claimstakes on SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 14 T108N, R11W, for Orvis.

Oct. 11: Looked at more pine timber, concluded to claim the prairie north of Mr. Foster's for myself, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 11 T108. Think it hard to have no timber but conclude to take prairie rather than claim a whole quarter to get 30 to 40 acres of woodland and the rest oak grubs and ravines. Odd's claim on Sec. 14 is all oak opening and my claim on Sec. 11 is nearly all prairie.

Oct. 12: Went to work on Whitewater road. We each made an axe-helve.

Oct. 14: Mr. Foster has gone to Winona, carried letters for us. People are hunting and traveling over the country all day, no meeting, no organized society. Seems rather odd not to have a Sabbath, but a meeting is not all that constitutes one, believe we can observe it properly without.

Oct. 15: Took Mr. Foster's team (oxen) and drew some poles from a popple grove to our claims.

Oct. 16: Dug a hole for water on Odd's claim and drew a load of logs. Lawrence came.

Oct. 17: Went to work with Mr. Foster on Lawrence's claim. Mrs. Foster went to Whitewater after Lawrence's family.

Oct. 18: So smoky it makes our eyes smart, prairie is all on fire not far south. Worked on my claim, laid up the body of cabin. Have 17 in Mr. Foster's cabin now. Jolly times. Mr. Wadleigh has gone to Wabashaw . . . Mr. Melendy came here.

Oct. 19, 20: Dug a hole for cellar on Odd's claim, hewed the sleepers and put them down.

Oct. 21: Cold, snowed an inch last night. Mr. Foster came from Whitewater in storm, fetched his goods, shall have bedclothes in plenty now. Mr. Wadleigh moved into Frank's cabin yesterday. Lawrence and Foster killed a dozen partridge and prairie chickens.

Oct. 22: Cold, squally, worked for Foster on timber.

Oct. 23: Went to Whitewater for Mr. Wadleigh's goods but they had not come. Saw timber east of my claim, some small strips very good.

Oct. 26: Have not worked today, quite unwell, think it is owing to my bad cold and imprudent eating. Fitted my bits to the stock, went to Eddy's and sent to Wabashaw for glass and nails.

Oct. 27: Orvis has been after boards at Wetmore's mill. Came through prairie on fire after dark, it is still on fire in all directions at 10 PM.

Oct. 28: Got sash and glass from Mr. Eddy, it was all broken badly.

Oct. 29: Sawed shingle timber in ravine. Prairie is on fire, rather a novel sight to see so much of the surface of the country ablaze. Feel a little lonesome some times when I think what good times our friends are having in Vermont but do not want to return. Hope to get into our cabin as soon as Mr. Foster gets back with our winter supply of provisions. Worked riving and shaving shingles, timber works very well, think we shall have a good roof. Mrs. Lawrence is sick, makes it hard.

Nov. 2: Have been working at shingles, have enough to cover cabin now. Mr. Wadleigh is sick yet, a fever of some kind. Mrs. Lawrence is getting smart again.

Nov. 8: Have put overlayers on cabin, put up rafters, finished shingling, sawed out door and window.

Nov. 9: Went to Whitewater with team with Mr. Foster. Went to Mt. Vernon, got some nails, pails, door lock etc. Stayed at Dutchman's overnight.

Nov. 10: Came to Greenwood, Odd has been chinking cabin, went into ravine and got some moss.

Nov. 11: Mr. Melendy started for Winona, is going home. Went to Mr. Smith's and got a half bushel of potatoes, paid 65c bushel.

Nov. 14: Got some planes and planed boards for door, matched floorboards. Mr. Lawrence went to Whitewater on Monday, back on Tuesday, found his goods at landing. Frank went to Whitewater today, brought Miss Mercy Lawrence and got my lime.

Nov. 18: Have hung door, put on lock, put in windows and did some chinking. Sent a letter for Mr. Tyson to carry to Wabashaw.

Nov. 20: Odd went to Whitewater for Mr. Wadleigh's goods, but not there. Brought medicine for Amanda, she is very sick, went to Mr. Boatman's and borrowed his broad axe, carried letters for Mr. Foster.

Nov. 21: Winter has commenced to all appearance. Drew some sand, put it in cellar, banked up most of cabin. Odd is cutting wood for Mr. Wadleigh's folks. Mr. Benjamin is going to preempt next Monday. Feel unwell.

Nov. 23: Have not worked except little in house sewing, Mercy has cut Odd some shirts.

Nov. 24: Received first letters from home. Odd had a letter from Enoch and Ezra (Dickerman) saying they are coming this winter.

Nov. 26: Finished our chimney. Will not finish my cabin this winter. Mr. Wadleigh is quite smart and is at work on his cabin.

1855

Nov. 28: Dug a well and found water at 10 feet.

Nov. 29: Went to split rails on pine lot but Mr. Baker had claimed it. Finished hewing cabin.

Dec. 1: Went to Mr. Boatman's expecting his team was going to Wabasha for Mr. Wadleigh and myself but was disappointed. Started on foot, arrived at Read's Landing before sundown, staid overnight at Mr. Scevey's tavern.

Dec. 2: Went from Read's Landing to Wabashaw, found a team to haul boards and my stove to Greenwood, staid at Mr. Weston's.

Dec. 3: Loaded up and came to Greenwood.

Dec. 4: Set up stove and begun plastering cracks.

Dec. 6: Odd worked on road, I finished plastering.

Dec. 8: Received the Bradford land warrant. Frank brought it from Wabashaw. Worked making a bedstead and battening the gable ends of cabin.

Dec. 9: Snowed 8" last night, went to our cabin and began keeping house.

Dec. 11: Cold, went to Mr. Thompson's and got 20 lbs. tallow and a quarter of venison.

Dec. 13: Looked at a good timber 40, but learned Stratton had entered it.

Dec. 15: Foster and I looked at land on table east of Stratton's old claim.

Dec. 16: Started for Winona, looked at land in ravine on North road to Whitewater, staid at Mr. Burns at Mt. Vernon.

Dec. 17: Reached Winona, located Elvira and Mary's (Bradford) land warrant and entered one timber 40 for myself, both in town east of Greenwood (Whitewater). Theirs in Secs. 7 & 18, T108N, R10W, mine on NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 8 in same town.

Dec. 19: Arrived at cabin, Enoch and Ezra there.

Dec. 22: Looked SE with Enoch, I made a bedstead, Odd and Ezra a shaving horse bench etc.

Dec. 24: Went to store. Enoch bought an axe and I bought some shirts. Borrowed Mrs. Lawrence's wash-tub and washed.

Dec. 27: Enoch and I went to look for oxen etc, stopped at Mr. Drake's (Dover twp.)

Dec. 28: Saw some land west of Mr. Drake's in Sec. 17, T106N, R11W, very good but no timber.

Dec. 29: Very cold, staid at Drake's all day.

Dec. 31: Still cold, worked cutting rails and in cabin. Have given up idea of getting oxen this winter on account of scarcity of hay.

Jan. 1, 1856: Hunted deer, but did not hit one.

Jan. 3: Very cold, made trap door to cellar and laid down chamber floor.

Jan. 4: Made steam box and two axe helves. Enoch worked on yoke, got flats and ironed.

Jan. 5: Turned a pair of ox bows, rigged up in white clothes and went to rail timber after deer, shot one, weighed 100 pounds after dressing.

Jan. 6: Staid in cabin cooking. Wrote letters to Sceva and Abigail Colby.

Jan. 7-15: Turned bows, Enoch is making yokes and Odd axe helves. Mrs. Lawrence is quite sick.

Jan. 17: Turned pair of bows, went to grove NW and shot 8 chickens and partridges and a rabbit.

Jan. 18: Turned pair of ox bows, went to grove East to get axe helve timber; watched 5 deer in ravine until dark. Today is my birthday, hope to have good luck and prosper for year to come.

Jan. 19: Went back after deer, watched them 3 or 4 hours, shot one.

Jan. 21: Hunted deer again, killed one in Benjamin's timber, young buck.

Jan. 22: Mr. Melendy brought mail, he is back at Foster's.

Jan. 23: Odd finished his axe helves, and we carried them to the store and got a bag of flour.

Jan. 25: Odd got back from Whitewater, found no very good chance to work chopping. Saw some oxen that could be bought for 130 dollars.

Jan. 26: Went to store and got my box of appleseed, put my seed in a box with earth and wet them. Mr. Hewitt sent some scions, some cabbage, turnip, pumpkin, squash and lettuce seed. Mr. Bradford sent some pear seed, some plumb stones and an ear of popcorn. I am remembered by some of my acquaintances at Barre, think of those most dear, especially on a quiet Sabbath evening. (Ed. note: Here he starts hunting for a new claim not in the Half-Breed Tract). We learn we cannot get title to our land at present, and it is altogether uncertain that we ever can. Our claims are located on a tract of land reserved for the half-breed Sioux Indians (or French and Indian), and there seems no prospect for speedy settlement in regard to the Sioux situation, so doubt our land will ever be available at government price. Do not feel like going to work to improve our claims but conclude to try to locate outside this Half-Breed Tract if possible.

Jan. 28: Went with Enoch to West Greenwood (Elgin), 6 or 8 miles west, to a grove of oak but it was all taken. Staid overnight at Mr. Bryant's. Saw a young Mr. Bryant who went to school at Barre when I went to singing school, had a sing in the evening from the Cythara.

1856

Jan. 30: Started NW to look for some timber but did not find it, must be 9 miles from Mr. Bryant's, staid there again at night.

Jan. 31: Looked at timber on Whitewater, very good but not as much as we expected, came home.

Feb. 1: Thought to go back to Yankee settlement (Elgin) but found it too cold and windy. Odd and Enoch are darning socks. Have never seen as much cold weather, hope the summer will be enough longer to make amends for it.

Feb. 6: Enoch and Odd have been at Drakes. Ezra and I got out some basket stuff and sot up some baskets, done some cooking.

Feb. 7: Went to work for Ezra, cut out roads and made bridges in ravine.

Feb. 9-17: Got out baskets. Weather bad.

Feb. 18-23: Worked for Foster.

Feb. 26: Have looked at prairie and timber down the crick from Drake's, went to Mr. Coon's on the Whitewater and staid overnight.

Feb. 28: Looked over prairie, went to the Smith timber and helped Ezra make a claim.

Feb. 29: Went from Mr. McCarty's to work on the crick, cut and laid some logs for a cabin. Mr. Smith came to the timber, did not appear angry to lose his timber.

Mar. 2: All here at cabin, our eyes are sore, think it is caused by prairie wind and bright sun.

Mar. 6: Have seen a lot of land, some good prairie but without timber or water, some where there was no prospect of a road. At last have concluded to take some timber on the Whitewater in Greenwood, there being a small lot not preempted, and also take prairie claims higher up on the Whitewater, in the town of West Greenwood (Elgin) 4 miles from the timber and 7 miles from Greenwood, one claim on the stream and 2 others on the prairie adjoining, thinking to have the stream accommodate all 4 of us, Ezra taking the timber and myself the crick claim. Enoch is rather blue, talks some of going to Vermont this spring.

Mar. 7: Conclude to lay up a log cabin instead of waiting for boards, went to grove and cut some logs for cabin on the crick.

Mar. 9 (Sunday): Some talk of going to church today but it must necessarily be all talk for there is probably not a meeting within 30 miles. Seems odd, but I am getting habituated to staying at home or wherever I am.

Mar. 12: Came back to Greenwood cabin last evening, started for Winona at 7 this morning and arrived at 6 PM, being 36 miles—21 on the ice down the Mississippi river.

Mar. 13: Went to land office and entered 40 acres on Sec. 19, T107N, R10W for Enoch, handed in Ezra's declaration on the timber claim in Greenwood. Declared the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 27, T108N, R12W for myself. Started for Greenwood and staid at Mt. Vernon overnight.

Mar. 14: Came home from Burnses, cold, at home at Odd's cabin, washed and finished two baskets. Melendy staid here overnight, have some talk of selling him my claim on the Half-Breed.

Mar. 15: Enoch and Ezra came to the cabin. Went to Mr. Foster's, Mercy Lawrence is there. Sold my claim on the prairie (NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 11 T108N R11W) to Gardner W. Melendy, also the rails in the grove.

Mar. 17: Went with Odd and Enoch to my new claim and they marked theirs and begun to dig cellars. Enoch went back to McCarty's.

Mar. 18: McCarty drewed me 300 feet of boards, worked on my cabin.

Mar. 19, 20: Put the roof and floor in cabin, went to McCarty's.

Mar. 21: Went to Odd's old cabin at Greenwood, picked up our duds, McCarty drewed them to the new cabin.

Mar. 22: Put up stove, put in door, etc, staid at the cabin all night, was very comfortable. Snow has settled $\frac{1}{2}$, begin to see bare ground.

Mar. 23 (Sunday): Staid at cabin, Curtis Bryant came in. Went home with him and had a "sing." Enoch and Ezra are in the timber. Matilda Bryant is not as well, very probable she will not see many weeks as she is consumptive.

Mar. 24: Worked on Odd's claim in forenoon and did some cooking in afternoon. Odd went to timber to cut firewood. Borrowed Mrs. Bryant's tub and wash board and washed.

Mar. 30, Sunday: Curtis Bryant staid with me last night. Odd has not come home, expect he has gone to Greenwood from the timber, shall expect some letters when he comes. It's a little more lonesome here than at Greenwood, no store, no mail, but one year ago today there was not a soul in this town . . . now the settlers number 30 and will probably increase fast. There is a fair prospect of getting at least one road through here this summer. It is past 10 o'clock and people in Vermont are at church, would like to hear a discourse again from the pulpit. Odd has come with a letter.

Apr. 2: Wet and snowy, staid in cabin and filed the saw, made a pillowcase.

Apr. 4: We went through on the Section line north of my claim, east $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, plowing a furrow on each side to mark the road, this being the Orinoco-Minneiska route we expect to get a road laid out on

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the first part of the season. We have already petitioned for a mail route and a post office but doubt we will succeed this season. . . . Saw a novel sight today, but can give but a poor idea of a scene no one could appreciate without beholding it. One-third of the ground, and perhaps more, is still covered with snow, the crick is overflowing its banks, and between the snow on one side and the crick on the other, the prairie grass was burning, cracking and flashing along at quite a rapid pace . . . and all three, the snow, the fire and the water being but a few yards from each other.

Apr. 5: The dry crick is even so high as to be impassable. Took a look over the prairie claims, found some gravel on a high knoll. Rained in evening, the cabin leaked a little just to remind us of stories we have read of life in the West.

Apr. 7: Agreed to carry on Atherton's braking. Went to Greenwood, got some basket stuff, engaged some potatoes from Zumbro bottom. (*Ed. Note: They spent all spare time making baskets, axe helms, ox bows, etc. and bartered them at the Greenwood store for their provisions.*)

Apr. 10: Started for Barre (name apparently proposed for Elgin), went by McCarty's, got home at noon, went with Mr. White and Mr. Washburn to look at land East. Mr. White marked the claim east of mine.

Apr. 13, Sunday: Ezra is going to preempt tomorrow. McCarty is going to get us some flour and meal down the river. Mary Ann, Emily and Curtis came in and we sung a short time. Engaged Clapp to draw our seed potatoes.

Apr. 17: Prairie on fire. Travelers are passing here on way to Orinoco, Rochester or Wabashaw.

Apr. 19: Sowed apple seed. Ezra has not preempted on account of a defect in his land warrant. The mail didn't come up last week from Wabashaw. The prairie is on fire on the opposite side of the crick from the cabin. Cut Odd's hair in the cabin door by the light of the fire, splendid lamp.

Apr. 26: Sowed 5 1/2 bushel of wheat, some onions.

Apr. 27: Rainy, went to McCarty's, our flour had not come. Went to the old cabin and to Fosters, could not get into the store. Got some flour of Wadleigh and got back to the cabin at past 7. Boatman is going onto school section in Greenwood. Henry Benjamin has got back but is not going to stay. Enoch has made up his mind to go to Vermont.

Apr. 29: Sowed 10 bushel of wheat.

Apr. 30: Went to Greenwood, started for the river, got wet before we got to Minneiska.

May 1: Stopped at Putnams, took a boat at 9 for Wyalusing, met 6 boats before sundown, all heavily loaded. River is high and rising. Arrived at Cassville at midnight, stayed at tavern.

May 5: I went to Patch Grove, bought one bushel of seed corn and an umbrella and started for Prairie du Chien, but the wind is so strong they cannot ferry across the Wisconsin River. I returned a mile or two and am waiting for the wind to subside. **P.M.** Went to the graveyard at Patch Grove, gathered some locust seed and returned to the house in the ravine. Shall try to cross the river in the morning.

May 7: Looked at oxen at Bradley's and Humphrey's, staid at Bradley's.

May 8: Saw some 4-year old steers of Bradley's and went to Fitch's, saw a pair of 3-year olds.

May 9: Went to Mr. Duncan's. Mr. Glines was there. He bought 2 yoke of oxen. Went toward Cassville (below Prairie du Chien two or three miles) and returned, went east 2 miles to see another pair.

May 10: Went east 4 miles to look at some oxen at Mr. Cook's. Engaged one yoke and went to Mr. Duncan's and bargained for another. (*Ed. Note: All this distance by foot, carrying a bushel of seed corn and an umbrella*)

May 11: Held up. Am obliged to go to Prairie du Chien again to get the gold on some paper money as people here will not take paper.

May 13: Got the gold on \$200 at Prairie du Chien, went to Bradley's, bought his oxen and a wagon, went to Mr. Duncan's and got his oxen, staid at Bradley's.

May 14: Oxen gone, had to go nearly to Duncan's, 7 miles to find them. Started for the ferry junction, cannot cross today, too windy.

May 16: Hard case to get my turn at ferry. Crossed about noon. Bought provisions etc. at McGregor.

May 20: Can drive teams about 15 miles a day. Am at Eliota, new town on the So. Minnesota line.

May 21: Drove 16 miles to Preston on Root River. Flour mills here, staid at the Dutch tavern.

May 22: Drove to Chatfield, 16 miles. This is a growing place. Brownsville Land office is moving here. Got my plow sharpened.

May 23: Drove to Drakes (Dover), 15 miles, warm.

May 24: Drove home 12 miles. Have drove the team about 140 miles. Grass is scarce especially in Iowa on the main roads as there are a great many teams and droves of cattle to feed on it. Think it is as early here as there.

May 27: Plowed corn ground. Matilda Bryant died this forenoon, the first death on Greenwood Prairie.

May 28: Sat up at Mr. Bryant's with George Farrar.

May 29: Went to funeral, 30 persons there, a man from the Tumbleson (Farmington) neighborhood named Blount preached. Matilda is gone.

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May 30: Plowed, harrowed and planted corn, Glines, Layard and Emerson worked, got along finely.

June 1, Sunday: Went to Greenwood, Ezra has pre-empted. Went in to **Sunday school at Greenville.**

June 3: Planted melons, squash, pumpkins and fenced the garden.

June 5: Went to Minneiska, bought a barrel of flour, two sacks of meal, some nails and came to Fosters.

June 7: Atherton is going to breaking tomorrow. Odd hoed the apple pips.

June 8, Sunday: Have been to Mr. Bryant's to meeting today, had one sermon and there is another appointment in 2 weeks.

June 13: Broke 1½ acres. Orvis planted corn, rutabagas.

June 15: Went to Minnesota City after noon.

June 16: Preempted at Winona on account of A. Gline could not preempt until I did. Hired money of him for 18 months at 12 per cent. Was his witness and he was mine. No trouble preempting.

June 17: Came back home, Jo Richardson is here.

June 21: Breaking, have been for several days. Jo has gone to Fosters. Mr. Sharp came here and took a list of land, stock, etc.

June 23: Hoed potatoes while Stanchfield has gone to get plows sharpened. Went to sawmill for Metcalf, broke spokes in one wheel and left part of load. Jo Richardson and David McCarty came to the cabin. Sent a letter to Abigail Colby, etc. (*Many days spent breaking, hoeing corn, potatoes, apple trees, garden, etc.*)

July 13: Odd has gone to Greenville store with letters.

July 18: Went to Minneiska after haying tools. Could find no boards I wanted either, stayed overnight, took on 10 hundred pounds for Burchard and came home. (*Burchard is running Greenwood store, and apparently they have a post office there now, named Greenville.*)

July 19: Have looked two days for Bill, one of the oxen. Found him 5 miles north of grove. Shot 2 ducks in one shot.

July 20: Have been breaking and hoeing since the last date. Crops are growing fast, most of corn is just beginning to tassel, although some of it stands six feet high and no tassels in sight. . . . Time flies, oh, how fast! It seems but a short time since the snow was on the ground and now it is mid-summer. I should like to know if time is as short to one other as to myself. How long we be shall thus separated, who can tell? If I were what I ought to be, it might not be long.

July 28: Odd has gone to **Centerville** to get a steel filing taken out of his eye. Commenced to cut wheat.

Aug. 12: Weather has been very dry except one shower yesterday which will help the potatoes and the late crops. We have been haying and cutting our wheat. Wheat is light and grass is not plenty that is large enough to cut for hay. We have cut about 5 or 6 tons. The ox team has had little to do, beginning to look sleek. The prairie is excellent pasture for cattle. There is a meeting at Mr. Stanchfield's today. A Mr. Loy (or some such name) is to preach, he lives down the stream about 4 miles. We have had ripe water melons and neighbors have muskmelons.

Aug. 17: George Farrar and Emeline Bryant were married the 13th and are keeping house up the valley 1½ miles.

Aug. 28: Attended a caucus or convention at Blackwell's today to choose delegates to attend a convention at Winona for the purpose of nominating representatives for the counties of Winona and Wabashaw. 5 delegates were chosen in this precinct which is composed of 4 towns, 108 and 109 N, Range 11 and 12 W. It was the first political meeting ever held, some 35 voters present. Have had a fine rain, a light frost nipped our garden but did no harm on the prairie.

Sept. 4: Went to Winona to the convention, first I ever attended as a delegate. It is a stirring time among politicians on account of the coming presidential election and the excitement in Kansas. E. L. King was nominated for Winona County and Alonzo P. Foster for Wabashaw as representatives to the Territorial Legislature in St. Paul. The Wabashaw delegates bolted as they intended to have a man from their place nominated and will fight Foster's election.

Sept. 14: Have cut up our sod corn for fodder. Our melons are nearly gone. Some went off mysteriously. Atherton has gone to Canada. Have had company in good quantity today . . . the Bryants, Lawrence, Boatman, Stanchfield and Mr. Reagan and lady have been here. Truman Waterman was here Friday and talks of taking a claim east of mine and Jo R's. Have been baking squash pies with very good success. Find I can use a little milk to good advantage. Think our cow is a good one.

Sept. 20: Finished breaking for Reagan. Glines and others have sowed winter wheat, but think we shall sow none this year. We are making a cellar back of our cabin for potatoes, turnips, etc. and shall be put to a hurry to get our crops in and make stables etc.

Sept. 21: The oxen broke into the garden last night and ate up our pop corn and some squashes, but we had picked enough for seed for another year. Have a cabbage, some turnips and meat on the stove which is a new dish for us, have not tasted cabbage since we left Vermont. Father wrote in his last letter that he had the Western fever a little. Said he should like some land that would raise corn without being obliged

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to manure it, and Osro and Oscar (*twin brothers in early teens*) are telling what they shall do when they get out west. Enoch is at work there by the month... (*Ed. Note: And he brings the young sister, Malinda, back as his bride*) Laird has sold his claim for \$1,300, it is not preempted, some men are putting in a saw-mill near Ezra's timber. (*probably Hitchcock*) and intend to have a run of stone to grind corn and proven-der. We left Topsham one year tomorrow, if our crops had been good we should have done tolerably well.

Sept. 28: Friday I went to Ezra's timber and helped to run it out (surveyed). We exchanged land, Ezra taking the E $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 27-108N-R21W, and I take the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 31-T108N-R11W. Our deeds are made out by Jas. W. Hayes. I also had my 40 of timber at Beaver run out. Joseph Richardson and Ezra Dickerman are going to Vermont and will return in the spring.

Oct. 11: Have been plowing furrows to protect our haystacks from prairie fires. It has all burned over north of the Rochester road. (*straight west to Culbertson's Corner*) Have been making a grain box for our wheat as we expect a machine to thresh it next week.

Oct. 18: Have been digging potatoes, making yard fence, etc. Have commenced feeding our cattle, the fire and frost have rendered the prairie grass nearly worthless. The 14th I went to the precinct meeting held at Greenville for the election of representatives to the legislature, county and precinct officers. Foster was elected.

Oct. 22: Have plastered the outside of our cabin with mud. Have paid the taxes on my land in Wabashaw County, also the territorial tax which was \$12.36.

Nov. 2: Threshed our wheat, had 123 bush. from the machine, our wheat is as good as any on the prairie. Shall try to plow several acres mores. Have pulled 225 bush. rutabagas and put them in cellar, think will have 25 bush. turnips grown in the nursery.

Nov. 8: Have sold 15 bush. of my wheat today to R. N. White of Greenwood for \$1.50 a bush. . . think it is first seed wheat ever sold here. Landlookers are plenty now, but the chance for claims in this region is getting rather lean. Don't know of a respectable quarter but that is taken. More land has been taken on the prairie than we expected would be in 3 years. How great a change since we came here. There was not a horse in town, now there are 20. No dog then, now a dozen, no roads except a track to St. Charles and Wetmore's Mill, now there are numerous tracks and one main traveled road to the river. Woodard and Bryant are putting up board houses, indeed it seems more like an old settled place than a wild prairie, many will have fields fenced by spring.

Nov. 20: Thanksgiving here, also in Vermont and several other states. Election returns show it is altogether

probable James Buchanan is elected. Should like to be in Vermont to get some of the good things provided for Thanksgiving, also some apples, have had but 4 or 5 this fall, they sell here at 3 for a dime . . . but should rather stay and accomplish something before I go back.

Nov. 28: Got a pair of old runners from Foster and have been in timber getting out material for an ox shed. Sold Pell 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ cords at \$2 a cord. Winter has commenced in right good earnest, must be near a foot of snow in the timber, but we shall be obliged to work out getting out our fencing.

Dec. 22: Have been at Beaver cutting logs for past 2 weeks, Huntington has helped me. Was obliged to leave my sled (which had 2 sacks of flour and several other things on it), unyoke the oxen and drive them 4 miles through the snow which is about 2 feet deep and drifted very hard. No one could imagine or comprehend the severity of a prairie snow storm without experiencing one.

Dec. 26: Spent last evening at Woodard's new house. Had a good visit, we are becoming accustomed to the Western mode of living, can enjoy a visit in a log cabin or preemption claim quite as well as in a carpeted parlor. But to a stranger just coming from the East it must be a ridiculous sight to behold such a gathering as ours of last evening. We were crowded into a small room in the lower part of Mr. W's new house which is not yet finished, seated upon chairs, trunks, boxes and one occupying the woodpile beside the stove, while others were seated upon the bed rail, no one having a thought but that their seats were of the most approved sort and to have a "Merry Christmas" was the principal consideration.

Dec. 31: Went to Centerville the afternoon of the 27th with 2 yokes of oxen to draw a load of provisions for a Wabashaw man. It rained and hailed all afternoon and evening, and in the night changed to snow and heavy wind. Was obliged to stop another night at the tavern, yoked up the second morning, went but a few rods, the crust was so sharp it cut the feet and legs of the oxen very badly. Put them in the shelter again and came home. The next day we started with 10 men and 5 yoke of oxen to break a road which we did with our feet and shovels and then followed with the teams, got back with our oxen about 8 in the evening. The expenses exceeded my pay by 50c, so I lost 3 days time and gave the oxen a hard job in the bargain. Will have to wait to draw logs owing to the snow crust. Hear they have 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet of snow at Dubuque.

Jan. 10, 1857: A man was frozen to death on the Rochester prairie a few days ago, found yesterday, have heard of several persons being frozen but no one has perished very near us to our knowledge. Flour is \$4.75 per cwt, salt pork 15c, butter 30c, sugar 14c.

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Jan. 13: Have been to McCarty's breaking a road to the Whitewater. Mail was carried through here yesterday on the Mt. Vernon and Orinoco route, first time thru. I am at times inclined to condemn Minnesota on account of its cold and disagreeable winters, but when I come to reflect how excellent the summers are, how healthy the country is and the quality of the soil and water I am disposed to be less severe. Would rather shake with the cold than the fever ague. It is discouraging that we can accomplish no more this winter, but will have to let the good spring weather make up for it. Hear that Foster's mill is running, are depending on getting boards for the greater part of our fencing. A look into our cabin may interest me, and perhaps others, when in future I may refer to these notes, if only I had a more full and comprehensive expression of ideas. (*little could he know then that he was leaving our only record of such for posterity*) First, a bird's eye view of the premises. And to get such a view one will be obliged to come quite near for the location of our cabin and its fixtures is such that it can be seen at no great distance in any direction. (*On Whitewater fork east of Elgin cemetery*) As the winter road passes us, we will suppose ourselves to be coming from the SW. The object which first attracts attention seems to look like two stacks of hay, nearly covered with snow, and soon we may see still farther a confused pile of indistinct objects which we must await a nearer approach to decipher. On approaching the hay-ricks, one of them turns into a Minnesota **stable**, for we can see the door and a small yard upon the least exposed side (SE) and still farther SE across the road is seen the watering place at the creek where teamsters are in the habit of stopping to water their thirsty animals. A nearer inspection will give some idea of the mode of construction of the stable. Posts are set in the ground, rising 7 feet, and upon these posts are laid poles to form a scaffolding which is covered with hay and straw to form the roof. 3 sides are turf walls, but from the prairie sward, the fourth side being the one next the hay rick, and it is inclosed by setting poles against the roof with one end resting on the ground, at an angle of 45 degrees, these are covered with straw, one end being left open to admit the hay and other fodder. Upon entering the stable door which swings on wooden hinges, you will have a view of the interior. At the right, are the stanchions for the oxen, 6 in number, and still nearer, one for the cow, with yet room for one more. At the left you will observe a pair of bars in miniature which have their use, for looking through you will see a dungeon, or a place quite as dark, 2 four-legged animals (which as the light increases prove to be calves). Their **apartment** is separate from the other stable and is formed of turf with a covering of straw over and around which the snow has gathered, protecting it entirely from the weather. Only a few feet West of the stable is a corn crib composed of small poles and contains a hundred or more baskets of ears of corn. . . The **cabin** is a very small

log one, with one roof of boards, with a small window in the south side, and in front of the window are two boxes set upon posts 2 or more feet from the ground, holding 50 bushels of wheat, covered with boards. The cabin door is in the East end, and over the door is a shed made of boards. This contains our wood (when we have any) and some other articles we have no room for in the cabin. On the north side of the cabin is what has the appearance of a large oval pile of dirt, which is the covering for our cellar. And now, having taken an outside view, we will enter the cabin, but please step over the threshold for should you step upon it you will be likely enough to crack your pate. Once inside you will be obliged just to have a seat where you are, or if you cannot get one, to stand still, for 3 persons take up all the room if we are very economical in the use of it. If you are a Yankee you will have the curiosity to look at everything in sight. As the bed is the most prominent object and occupies the most room, you will likely notice that first. It is upon a "Minnesota" bedstead made of basswood and is composed of a tick filled with straw (but we had no straw until within 2 or 3 months, previously it was filled with prairie hay), with a quilt for a featherbed, and the covering is a tack or "comfortable", manufactured principally by myself, over which is spread a pair of white Indian blankets. Beneath the bed are our trunks, a box filled with clothes, another filled with seeds of almost every description, one or two other boxes containing various articles, also 3 or 4 pair of boots and shoes. Our table is a swing table with one leg, formed of a wide pine board, and upon the end next the cabin wall is a box containing patches, thread, needles, thimbles, beeswax, pins, etc. and on this box are several books and newspapers. The stove occupies the only place left for it, and on one side is a shelf for the waterpail, beneath which we lay our wood, and in the other corner are some shelves for our dishes and victuals. Underneath stands the flour barrel, covered with a cake board. Overhead in the highest part of the room is a shelf upon which are laid our tools, ammunition box, etc. In another place are our guns, in a third our hats, caps, mittens, etc. Over the foot of the bed, suspended from one of the ribs are 3 bags, containing respectively some seed corn, wheat and rice. The walls are principally covered with coats, breaches, frypans, griddles etc. Near the stove is a small door, 2-1/2 feet square, which leads to our cellar, and the passage is covered with turf. The cellar is 10x12 feet, high enough to clear a man's head and contains our potatoes, turnips, etc. with a shelf for our milk. Orvis does the stable work and I do the cooking, and if you want to know how things are done, just "keep batch" a few months.

Jan. 29: Finally managed to break our road to the timber yesterday but it is hard traveling and have about given up the idea of drawing anything more than a few loads of wood this winter. There was an election the 26th at Centerville to elect a justice and 2 Constables, we tried to get 2 of them here, but they

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were too much for us at Centerville. Oziath Wilcox was elected for justice. Have written the folks at home giving them a description of the Minnesota winters and told them to do as they think best about coming out here but to let us know whether to expect them. It is my intention to live here at least 3 or 4 years before I decide.

Feb. 14: Another foot of snow, still 3 feet deep in timber now, although much of it settled. Will take another yoke of oxen and try to get back to work in the timber.

March 14: Have been in timber at Beaver since last date. Think I have logs enough to make 15 thousand feet. Learn it has been cold all over the country, 50 below in Montpelier. Many people are moving through here with goods, afraid our acquaintances will no longer find land here on the prairie. Will have to fence our crops or we shall derive no profit from all we have done.

March 26: The Half-Breed scrip is being issued the present week, considerable excitement on the tract. The Railroad bill has passed and the land offices are closed. Everyone here is busy conjecturing where the transit road will run, some pretend to think it will come through here, time will tell, but I have but little faith it will come this far North. (*It didn't*).

March 31: Have been at work digging stone for a cellar wall. Heard from J. Q. Richardson, first in more than 2 years.

April 6: Have been to Beaver, have stuck up what boards are sawed, in fences, about 6,000. Odd put up some of the fence around the nursery.

April 19: Snowed again, people traveling with sleds, have hopes the ground will be bare before "Dog Days". Churned, put a tongue in the wagon. Looked at the apple trees. None are killed to the ground. The Osage orange appears to be gone, think it will never be profitably grown here, nor the locusts. Many say they are emigrating to Kansas and Mexico.

May 3: Went to Minneiska, got harrow teeth and cultivator, drew up 4 trunks for Burnham and Lyman Richardson, snow is loth to leave, some drifts yet, have been breaking for Lee, our land may be dry enough tomorrow. First boats went through Lake Pepin April 30th, Wabashaw was head of navigation for a month before. McCarty and I are going to set apple scions in nursery.

May 14: Finished sowing 15 acres wheat, sowed beets, peas and turnips. Nice rain. Blackman, Gline's relative, and Sawyer are back . . . hear the people at **Greenville** are in great anxiety about the result in relation to their land. A Mr. Geysinger from Indiana was one of the first who took a claim at Greenville which he left and went back to Indiana, having done some breaking. He remained in Indiana except making one or two visits at Greenville until this spring

when he brought his family. Last summer a Mr. Putnam took his claim, built a house and has lived there since until a day or 2 ago when Geysinger raised a mob as we hear and drove or put them out, tore down the house and burned it. The land is on the Half-Breed tract too, so altogether, they are having an interesting time.

May 24: Have been breaking, planting corn, melons and squash. Gardner Melendy and Harrington were here. They have been to Faribault to the new land office there. They say the halfbreeds have not "laid scrip" upon improved lands and they think they will not. Putnam and Geysinger have both engaged scrip to lay upon their disputed claim and have agreed to have it to the Register & Receiver of the land office to decide which shall have the land, they to decide according to the preemption law, the same as if the land could be preempted. (*Preemption law gave precedence to first settler, Geysinger apparently won because he had done some "breaking".*)

May 27: Got half bush. of seed corn at Youngs on Whitewater, still have potatoes to plant and a little Yankee corn. Wheat looks good, corn is breaking through.

June 2: Went to Centerville to the election holden there to elect delegates to the constitutional convention. 45 votes cast, 36 Republican. Set grafts for Metcalf.

June 10: Mr Washburn the assessor has been here. McCarty is drawing boards. Vegetation is putting forward very fast now. Gophers are damaging the corn some.

June 17: Rain has come in torrents for several days. Teams are returning from Wabashaw with very small loads. Mr. Woodard got swamped in the dry creek, the water as high as the horses' backs. Had a woman in his wagon, the body came off the wheels, tipped over and spilled the woman in the creek. He brought all safe ashore.

June 23: Blackman and Huntington are drawing boards for me. Mary Bryant started East today, she has no acquaintance for company, think it not prudent for her to go alone, as she is in very poor health.

July 8: The thermometer has run as high as 104. We finished the last 47 rods of fence the 3rd of July. The 4th Orvis went to Greenville to a picnic, is going to break for Foster. I went to Orinoco mill, have never been there before, quite a village.

July 10: Wheat is beginning to head, is as high as it was last year at harvest, the cucumbers are in blow, peas ready to pick and turnips as large as teacups.

July 12: All is so green and beautiful. No season can compare with early summer. Nature has no greater charm than her growing trees, green grass and grain and her blooming flowers, nothing to be seen of decay, all is vigorous life with the numerous birds continually

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tuning their pipes to pour forth their gladness and the tinkling cattle bells making one grand chorus.

July 28: Went to Rochester, got a grain cradle, pork etc. looked at some grass on Gilbert's land, he offers to let anyone cut it for $\frac{1}{3}$ of the stack, saw some on a young widow's claim, so bought as much as we shall be able to cut for \$8.

Aug. 8: Raining, am waiting for water to heat, am obliged to improve the time when it rains in doing our washing. There is a reaper in the neighborhood, price is \$1 an acre, think we shall cut ours with a cradle.

Aug. 14: Have cut a good part of our wheat, Odd is getting to quite a Hoosier, he binds wheat as they do and has nearly kept up with cradle. I carried our pickle cask and a gallon of alcohol up to Mrs. Huntington, she is going to take care of the cucumbers.

Aug. 21: Foster has been at Faribault land office again. Bryant and Atherton bought a threshing machine at Prairie du Chien. Had new potatoes and roasted corn today. Time is going fast with much to do, have considerable teaming to do, must build storage for our wheat. Are hard put for funds and must hire some money if we can until we can turn something off.

Sept. 11: Have sowed winter wheat, harrowed it once, went to Winona to pay taxes on Beaver land. Hired some money of Foster to be paid in the spring or before. Father has had an auction. Received first mail at our post office last night.

Sept. 23: Returned from Minneiska, bought pine lumber for \$15, lath \$15, shingles, 200# nails, 2 boxes of glass and sash. Warm, oxen lollid.

Oct. 5: Got home after dark, found Mother, Father and rest of children at the cabin. They left Topsham Sept. 21, just 2 years after we left. Enoch and Malinda came with them.

Oct. 10: We are at work drawing lumber, stoning the cellar and cutting up corn. I went to sawmill, carried Enoch and Malinda to McCartys. Huntington is back from Indiana, has an heir, crops not as good there as here, will work for me on house.

Oct. 28: Have been shingling, have but 3 courses and finishing the jet. Have dug 300 bush. potatoes. Thursday morning Uncle Jonathan Colby arrived (*He and son Loyal had been in California*) and is working on the house. Enoch is building a cabin near his timber, is still at McCartys.

Nov. 2: Threshed, had 300 bush. wheat, pulled 50 bush. rutabagas, primed window sash.

Nov. 8: A foot of snow, heavy wind, first of season. Mr. Clark's boy lost last night, neighbors all searched today, found team on prairie, boy was safe at Clapps.

Nov. 15: Still working hard on the house, covered up 150 bush. potatoes in field, intending to let them winter that way, winter has set in early, everyone on prairie has crops still to get in.

Nov. 21: Hard storm. We are nearly out of flour and meal, neighbors all in same predicament. Put a stove in cellar of new house, have 90 bush. potatoes in it. John Q. Richardson writes he will come here next August. If all those come who talk about it, we shall have a good acquaintance near us.

Nov. 26: Gone 3 days to Orinoco mill via Rochester. Carried 55 bush. wheat and 2 of corn. Have sold most of flour at \$2.50 to \$3 per cwt. Rochester mill expects to grind wheat next week, are grinding flour now. Drawed 300 bricks for our chimney, thermometer 17 degrees below. (*the first brick chimney on the prairie*).

Dec. 15: Have husked a good part of our corn. Moved into new house today. Have got the stairs up, the outer doors hung, floors, laid etc. Have had several sings lately, one at Deacon Gould's. Have been fitting up the old cabin for a shoe shop for father. Both the Orinoco mails are to be carried through this route this winter. Putnam has hired Bourne to carry his through from McCarty's to Orinoco. It is more convenient to have room to write etc. Seems very different from the old cabin, though we are quite full here, as there is no shed or back room yet.

Dec. 28: Have carried grist to the Whitewater mill. Not enough snow for sledding. Got no letters, do not know the reason, have had but one for a month.

Jan. 4, 1858: Fine weather, got grist, Whitewater flour is good quality. Had a New Years party and sing at Goulds. 50 at meeting at Bryants yesterday, Mr. Cochran was speaker. Have dug 21 feet, came to shelly rock, sent for powder and drills, hope to get water at 30 ft.

Jan. 15: Uncle Jonathan Colby sold a land warrant to Mr. Lee and took a two-year old steer, we bought the steer and killed it. Have been drawing rails with Huntington on shares, drawed 648 rails and 66 posts. Have bargained my 40 in Beaver for a land warrant and Odd will probably go and preempt soon. The well is proving a disappointment, have a little more time now without household duties though I do not improve it as fully as I should.

Jan. 22: Orvis, Gould, Lee and Cook went to Faribault. Uncle Jonathan, Bryant, Stanchfield and Laird are going soon. Uncle Jonathan went to Rochester to transfer a warrant to Mr. Cook and talked of going to High Forest to see Cyrus Dickey.

Jan. 24: Orvis has got as near as Bryants but cannot cross the dry creek. He says he has preempted.

Feb. 7: Uncle is working on well, blasting, etc. Has gone but 4 feet. I was at Greenville and Centerville yesterday, got drills sharpened, etc. Saw two wolves, quite bold. Leatherman shot 2 prairie wolves from his house. High water has carried 2 new bridges off the Zumbro at Rochester and Orinoco. Johnson's mill dam (Quincy) gave way.

Feb. 21: Have carried flour to Wabashaw but could get but \$2.50 per cwt. Have sent to Vermont for 3000 apple scions, several people want to start nurseries.

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Uncle Jonathan started for Vermont. Have laid a foundation and started a wall for the well to prevent the earth from caving in so can blast out the bottom.

March 12: Finally have water at 28 feet, Mr. Maker is getting out the rock above the sand which contains more water. Yesterday I paid Wm. Kimball \$15 he claimed as damages done him in cutting timber on his land though we supposed it to be vacant. So much for meddling with what is not our own.

March 19: Had a hard wind, took the straw roof off wheat bin, some damage to timber piles, haystacks, etc. Opened one pile of potatoes. They are sound.

March 23: Have been to Foster's mill, robins and larks are here again. I heard by way of Mrs. Lawrence that Mary Bradford died in February, of brain congestion.

April 11, Sunday: It has rained, hailed and snowed by turns all day. Have been to meeting today, at Bryants. A church of the Congregational order has been organized, with 14 members, & a Sabbath school. Received a letter from Mary Bradford, written 6 days before she died, it had been miscarried. She said she was in good health and spirits.

April 16: Plowed in forenoon, went to vote on the loan bill in PM. Ezra Dickerman was here, he is married to Harriet Rowland, he says Jo Richardson is married to Ursula Miles and is coming back.

May 2: Yesterday had a caucus at Mr. Pell's to nominate town officers. Grass is a little green, winter wheat is badly killed, have grafted 100 wild plum and apple trees, sold 150 trees at Greenville and Centerville for 10c.

May 16: Have sowed oats and some corn, wheat is about as green as the prairie. Grafted 800 trees and set them in nursery rows. The Sabbath school and bible class met here last Sunday and will today.

May 29: Have planted potatoes, moved the school house and worked in the nursery, 3600 trees grafted.

June 13: Have broken 12 acres, gophers may make us plant some corn over. Millet and rutabagas are up, sugar cane is poorly, are feeding potatoes to the oxen, about 6 bushel a day. Gardner Melindy and Lorinda Foster came with Enoch and Malinda, have all gone back.

July 14: Sold 2 yoke of oxen, one to Gould and one to Rice, got \$100 in note and lumber. Went to Wabashaw and Tepeotah, Uncle Jonathan and Loyal Colby came back from Vt., brought out 7 horses.

Aug. 1: Have been to meeting, Mr. Crawford preached. Orvis and Loyal have gone to Dodges. Have had new beets, onions, turnips and cucumbers, too wet for melons, wheat is rusting considerably. Have cut an acre.

1859—Mr. Rollins, after 3 years and 3 months here as a bachelor, with only an occasional wistful reference to his situation, started for Vermont on January 5, 1859 to bring back the girl, Ellen Keith, as his wife. He went by way of Wisconsin, visiting Gates and Charles Richardson at Oxfordville. In Vermont he visited old friends and family, as well as those of many of the Greenwood Prairie settlers, until Apr. 4th when he and Ellen were married and started back to Minnesota. His journal stops on April 7th when they arrive in Chicago, and the next record available commences in 1863.

Mar. 14, 1863: The winter has been mild, no snow of account, have teamed to the river with wagons all winter. What snow there was is going off fast. Went to spelling school and could not get home on account of high water, staid at John Q. Richardson's overnight.

Apr. 2: Went to Fathers, and to Burchards to get bees. Carried pigs to Plainview, sold to Wilcox for 9c a lb. Paid J. Colby for horses. Alfred Thomas came here to work.

Apr. 23: Have sowed 18 acres wheat for Jo Richardson. Took up 100 trees in nursery, carried them to Burchard, Todd and Messer. Harrington brought trees for front yard. Set some by road, made flower beds.

May 25: Went to Plainview, got 35c for potatoes, 98c for wheat, planted cucumbers and beans.

May 29: Went to Plainview to a **gopher count**, plenty of folks there.

June 6: Went to training or drill. Went to Hills and Beans for posts, bought a fanning mill \$27.

June 22: Fosters and Stewards here, have been doing a lot of fencing. Ellen's cow died, something like a dozen head have died, very sudden, cause unknown, are just found dead swelled to the utmost. Heifer sick, Osro went for Searles, he didn't know what the trouble was.

July 1: Went to camp meeting, very dry, wheat heading out. Killed a hog, 372 lbs., sold to Champine. Have been sowing buckwheat and wed strawberries. Very smoky.

July 17: Cut hay, have 2 tons. Wild hay is a failure in these parts, there is none where we have usually cut ours. Think we must raise our own.

Aug. 4: Have been cutting wheat. Sam'l Thompson was killed by lightning last evening.

Aug. 9: Still cutting wheat, Red Astrichan apples are getting ripe.

Aug. 24: Have been stacking wheat, some are threshing from shock. Went to Centerville (after 4 years it is still hard to say Plainview), got new stove, have cut up cane, got a bushel of wild plums from timber.

Sept. 13: Have been threshing except for militia drill. Mr. Willard preached today.

1863

Sept. 14: Finished threshing, had 1148 bushels got 60c per bushel at Plainview.

Oct. 23: Have been plowing, got in apples, carrots, onions, etc., still threshing. Went to Foster's mill pond, froze enough to bear the boys. Father bought horses.

Oct. 30: Gates' Richardson's youngest child died. Gates, his wife and other child have diphtheria. Ellen sat up there. (*He recounts dozens of diphtheria deaths*) Snowed 4 inches.

Nov. 25: Went to Hills for wood, to Plainview with chickens, got 5c a lb. Oscar came for me as soon as I got home, Osro very sick, the doctor was there and staid until he died at 20 minutes past 10 PM. He gave his wallet to his twin, Oscar.

Nov. 26: Went to Plainview to get things ready for the funeral.

Nov. 27: The funeral was at Father's in the forenoon, Mr. Cockran preached. Emma (*another sister*) quite unwell. Ellen, Malinda and Orvis not at funeral. Osro was 18.

Dec. 7: Went to Plainview for doctor. He says Ida has not diphtheria.

Dec. 19: Have made sausage, cut wood at schoolhouse, went to town meeting, voted to raise \$302 for each volunteer to fill quota of 500,000. Odd got home, Malinda has diphtheria.

Dec. 25: Ellen and children went with me to Plainview.

Dec. 30: Have broken roads, had 16 inches snow. Went around to get signers to bond to secure volunteers for their 302 dollars. Went to War meeting. Stillman and 8 others enlisted.

Jan. 23, 1864: Have been drawing wood from Hills. Very cold, Willie Richardson buried, set up with Oscar last night, he has diphtheria.

Jan. 30: Ellen and I have been at Father's. Oscar died at 20 minutes past 10 PM. He was never heard to mention Osro's name after Osro died. We hope he is with him again in heaven.

Feb. 3: Went to the moving of Gline's granary. He draws it into the town for a store.

April 17: Has been little sleighing in February or March. Some wheat sown in March. Lonson Vermilya works for me, we have sowed the oats and planted apple seeds. Wheat is rising, worth 85c at Plainview, 95c at river.

Apr. 24: Pigeons (*carrier*) have been plenty, are picking up grain, have sown 50 acres wheat. The town board met here yesterday making out road lists, I have 2 or 3 days more copying to do.

Apr. 25: Sowed $\frac{1}{2}$ bush. Hedgerom wheat, some that Osro saved by selecting heads, cleared away banking.

1864

May 1: Was vaccinated. Have been setting willow cuttings and some currant cuttings I got at Plainview. Have been to Mr. Cochran's to sit up. Todd came for trees, sent some to Saml. Wilson. Went to Plainview with wheat, school commenced. Sold trees to Hill and Baldwin.

May 7: Have moved the graves from the old ground to the new cemetery. Gave a deed to the cemetery and a deed to John Houghton's wife of a lot in village. Have sold all the trees I had large enough, could sell many more. Winter did little damage.

May 19: We started at 11 o'clock and went to Gaylords, where we took the stage for Wabasha. Went east and north of Plainview for fear of the small pox. Took boat for Prairie du Chien.

May 27: Arrived at Barre, nothing looks as well as in Minnesota.

July 1: Have been visiting here and at Boston, expected to start home before but children have had a kind of cholera morbus, are quite sick.

July 9: Was at Winona about 8. Two miles above Fountain City the boat ran on a snag and sunk in 4 feet of water; doing no harm to anything but the boat. No excitement because it was on the bottom before anybody knew it.

July 10: Several boats passed each way but we were obliged to stay the night. About 11 AM a small boat came from above and took us off, landed at Wabasha at 6 PM.

July 11: Came from Wabasha on the stage. Found things all right at home, saw no crops enroute that looked near as well as they do here. Corn is tasseling, wheat is well headed and filling.

July 30: Have been haying, used a reaper for cutting. Have cut oats and started on the wheat, it is not as good as last year. Help is \$3.50 a day. Wheat is \$1.75.

Aug. 14: War meeting at schoolhouse, agreed to pay \$40 for bounties to volunteers or to pay drafted men if can not procure enough volunteers to clear the town from draft. All of us paying \$50 or more. Wm. Brown is to start to St. Paul to hire volunteers.

Aug. 27: Have been threshing at Jo R's. Mr. Cochran died last night.

Nov. 8: Have been hauling wheat and husking corn. Bought cornsheller for \$16. Our town cast 104 votes for Lincoln, 5 for McLellan. Got out 55 loads of manure, have had 1010 bush. wheat and 525 of oats. Lonson Vermilya has finished working, is going west to his father's. We expect a Mr. Bray to teach in this district, he is a brother of Charles Bray and Mrs. Weld.

Dec. 5: Went to Plainview with Ellen and children. Paid \$6 for a barrel of apples, bought woodsaw.

Dec. 24: Went to Plainview, carried some butter, got 42½¢, got some Christmas gifts for children. Mr. Well's boy died of diphtheria. Lonson came back.

Jan. 15, 1865, Sunday: Have been hauling grist, paid taxes \$101.11. Went to meeting today, the Freewill Baptist Minister preached. Have made powder horns.

Jan. 19: Special town meeting. Voted to raise \$4,000 by tax provided each man liable to draft pays \$25.

Jan. 29: Bryant, Woodard, E. Dickerman, J. & H. G. Richardson, Parr, and myself have bought the mill, intend to put in an engine.

Feb. 15: Went to help move Dea. Gould's house, he has bought land in Quincy, five miles from here. Got the house on the ground and home at sunset.

March 9: Have been several diphtheria deaths. Went for Dr. Engle to see Flora.

March 12: Dr. Engle has been here three times. Flora is better.

March 24: Brought Mother here. Dr. Miles was down to see Odd, thinks it is diphtheria.

March 25: Dr. Miles, mother and Mrs. Richardson here. A son was born at 3 PM. Ellen is quite smart considering. (*Already has two daughters*).

April 1: Went to Plainview, bought a seed sower, pay \$7 now and \$80 in November. The pigeons are making their appearance which decided me to try one as it will put the grain deeper and quicker than the harrows.

April 12: Meeting at store to see about hiring a man to go for the drafted man. Lonson has agreed to go for \$500 in cash and \$400 in town orders. Will Cochran took him to Lake City.

April 17: Lonson came on stage, they want no more soldiers. He will work for me same as before. Alfred Thomas came here too. They say the president was assassinated on the 14th and Seward badly wounded. Also that Lee and his army are taken prisoners.

June 29: Have been to Gopher Count (*at Plainview*). Went to Uncle Jonathan Colby's and to Geo. Harrington's. Mrs. Paine came home with us.

Dec. 31: The year ends, crops were lighter, wheat bringing 80¢. I sold 200 to Wilcox for \$1 delivered at river. Have paid 95¢ a yard for denim. Bought some young cattle, 3 yearlings for \$15 each and 4 calves for \$8.

Jan. 19, 1866: Have drawn wheat to Minneiska for Wilcox on contract. Paid my insurance, got 20¢ per lb. for sausage.

April 29: Have been at Plainview, wheat is worth a dollar. Glines has sold his farm to Wm. Feller, an acquaintance of the Dodge's, for \$4,000. Clark sold his house and two lots for \$300.

1866

May 5: Ellen is quite sick. Dr. Waist has been here, calls it that she has billious fever.

May 12: Ellen is a little better. Dr. Tefft was here. I carried butter to Plainview, brought bonnets for Mrs. Glines.

May 17: Had 4 half barrels of maple sugar come, has been six weeks on the road. Carried some to Plainview, Wilcox had 118 lbs. at 25¢.

May 21: Have been drawing manure and plowing corn ground. Had a sugar party in the evening after supper, 72 here.

June 25: Good Templars Lodge started this evening.

July 20: Hay has been best it has ever been. Sold father 2 tons, have 10 or 11 for myself.

Sept. 12: Threshed 1002 bush. wheat, barley and oats today at Jo R's. Have been plowing.

Sept. 20: Have been at Fair 3 days, Ellen and Father went, got premium on my apples.

Dec. 20: Went to Plainview, sold sausage, Ellen and children went and had some pictures taken.

Jan., 1867: Went to Parr's (*Fairwater*) and Elba mill. Alvin Gray was killed near Sylvester's by having his load of wood tip over on him. Was dead about 3 hrs. when found. His horses were held by the reins being around his wrist.

Dec., 1867: Has been a very good fall for work. Wheat is poor this year on the whole prairie. Went to Wabasha as witness at the County seat suit between Wabasha and Lake City.

July, 1868: This spring we laid the cellar wall for the new house. Paid masons \$58. Got a Johnson reaper, harvest hands still scarce. Enoch and Ezra are threshing for me.

Dec., 1868: Have laid lumber for granary and some lath for house. Hart, one of the Plainview masons, has laid the chimney to the roof and plastered the chambers one coat. Wheat is as high as \$1.50 a bushel, potatoes scarce and \$1, butter 40¢ for good.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Rollins continued to write in his journals daily—with the same ingrained interest and respect for his fellowman—until and including the day of his death, February 13, 1895. It is our sincere hope that his entire writings may some day be published.

HENRY T. WASHBURN

Henry T. Washburn, who was born in 1851 wrote and published a book of rambling reminiscences shortly before his death in 1933. In it he tells how his family came with the Miners and Picketts by wagon train in 1855, settling on a farm in Section 3, Plainview township where the family continued to live although his father died within a few years. We quote a few lively excerpts from Mr. Washburn:

In 1855 there were no houses from Hall's little log hotel at St. Charles to Cook's Valley. Pioneering was



Greenville School Reunion

The last of Annie White's Greenville pupils sat together for this picture at the Old Settlers dinner in 1914. Seated: Henry T. Washburn, Mrs. E. L. Burton (nee Helena Washburn), Mrs. E. R. Cornwell (nee Emily Burchard). Standing: Dean Harrington, Mrs. Dave Wentworth (nee Julia Miner), Frank Washburn, Mrs. Orren Wood (nee Esther Smith) and Charles Burchard.

strenuous business. We broke sod with big plows requiring many yoke of oxen, and with farmers combining ox power, at best we could break only 2 or 3 acres a day. The plows turned the brush under, but the harrows pulled it to the top and it had to be burned before the crop was sown.

There were no frills to the housekeeping. All our food was raised, but good appetites prevailed. None of us children ever owned shoes in summer, and the stubble left by prairie fires in hazel brush made our feet sore from Spring to Fall.

Stock ran at large so fields had to be fenced, and we children had to hunt the cattle at night, sometimes five miles from home. Sometimes we would be caught several miles from home in a sudden violent thunderstorm. Never in a long life have I been again so near perfect happiness as then when I reached home, got into dry clothes and into bed with the rain still beating on the roof.

Wild fruit was plentiful. Fine plums, wild crab apples, blackberries, raspberries, gooseberries, strawberries, chokecherries, black cherries and grapes. Wish I could taste blackberries again like those from Tommy Smith's grove.

The country was also alive with game. Without a dog one could get a mess of chickens in a few minutes. One time we were cleaning wheat for market and in spite of the noise of the fanning mill we could hear a roaring sound, and rushing out we saw a sight the like of which will never be seen again. As far as the eye could see in every direction the air was full of prairie chickens.

One summer vast numbers of passenger pigeons nested on the Zumbro so they were with us all summer. I remember older people saying that such great flights presaged some great disaster. While we were planting wheat by hand, the pigeons would swoop down and beat the harrow to it. As they fed, those at the rear kept flying over those in front so they had the appearance of a blue cloud rolling along the ground. These pigeons were caught in nets and sold in the big cities until there are none of the beautiful red, white and blue birds left.

The first few years we children attended school at Greenville, a town that started and died an early death when Plainview was founded. It was two miles to this school by the road, but we used to cut across until the land was too much plowed up. I think the schoolhouse was 16x20 with about 60 pupils enrolled so we were a bit cramped. After a few years a district was formed nearer home but we never had a schoolhouse until I had stopped going to school. We used to have 3 months of early summer school in some empty granary or deserted house and the same in the winter. When Uncle Bill Whitney built a new house, the school district hired my oldest sister Esther to teach school in his old log house.

I was about 15 when my brother Selden bought the first horse we ever owned. As I remember, she was running bred and about as appropriate for farm work as I for a preacher.

We hauled grain to Minneiska with the choice of two roads. The valley road through Beaver would be halfway to the wagon hubs in sand in a dry spell, and the other road was known as the Ridge Road between East Indian Creek and the Whitewater. To fill deep holes the men would lay small willow trees close together and then put dirt on top. Swampy roads were cured by laying small logs close together. Some people called this corduroy and some called it worse. There was a mile hill on the ridge road. Some times it took hours to make this hill. The road was cut out of the side of a very steep bluff hardly wide enough for wagons to pass. With 30 or 40 wagons going each way, we had to keep unhitching our teams and either setting the wagons up on the bank or hanging them over the bank below to let a string of loaded wagons pass.

All the streams abounded in speckled trout, and in the larger streams there were pickerel and muscalunge. We caught trout in North Indian creek a long way above where there is any water now. For bait we used salt pork which had been wrapped up with the scab from a horse's leg where the prehistoric other toe was hitched on. Why I do not know, but we had great success in enticing the trout from their watery pastures.

Selden and I played a lot of ball. We joined the Plainview club which had a membership of about 75. Selden was the best fielder I have ever seen. Of course we should have been working but it was good wholesome sport. We caught the ball in our bare hands, and at school the girls caught it in their sunbonnets.

The first winter the snow was so deep the Indians killed deer with clubs, and the settlers could buy a "saddle" (hindquarter) of venison from them for 25c.

The glory of the rivers has departed, due to cutting off the timber and plowing up the sod. I remember at Elgin there used to be quite a stream, but last summer when I visited there the old stream bed was dry for miles.

People did queer things in the name of religion. One neighbor used to climb to the top of a tree to pray. He would put so much vim into it he was frequently heard at the Baldwin place half a mile away, whether he was heard at the throne of grace or not.

Do You Remember?



Horse and Carriage

Neither the bridge nor the surrey has been identified. Can you? The two-seated cutter is supposedly a J. P. Waste rig.



The team of "fat and working cattle" Marble Wood took to the 4-H shows in 1932?



1895

Plainview Township

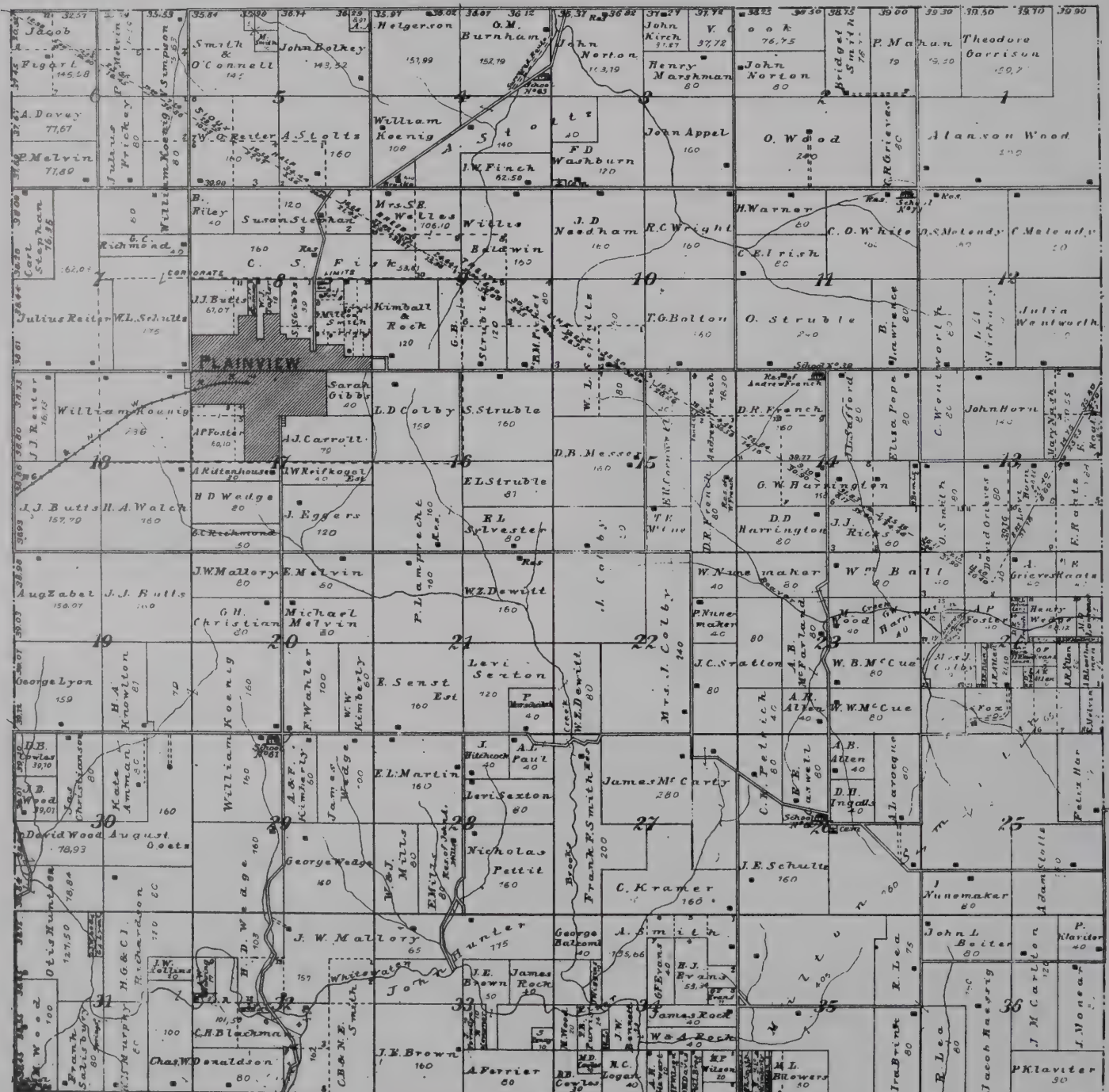
1895

T108N - R11W

Wabasha County, Minnesota

Can you find all the pioneer claims Mr. Rollins recorded in his diary? And the wooded sections they divided into tidbits so zealously? Notice how much larger the farmsteads appeared in 1895 than in the next plat made 30 years later—for instance the Milton Smith acreage in Sections 25, 26 and 35.

Also the farms that became centennial landmarks in 1956, with descendants of our 1856 pioneers having farmed the original claims continuously for the century: Alanson Wood in Section 1; Valentine Cook and Orren Wood (son-in-law of Thomas Smith) in Section 2; and J. D. Needham in Section 10.



1915

Plainview Township

1915

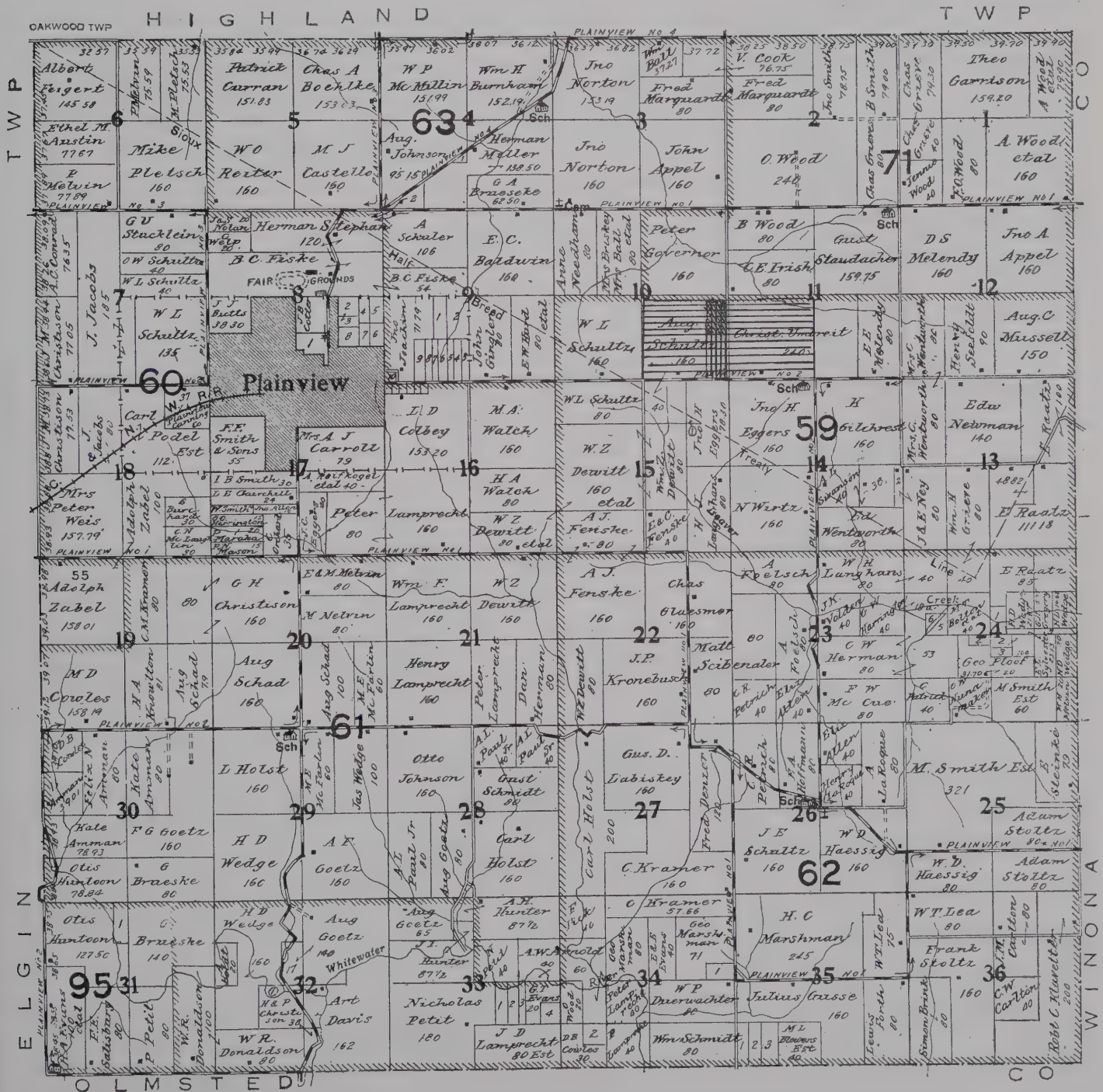
T108N - R11W

Wabasha County, Minnesota

The ghost of **Greenville** has been drawn in for you in Sections 10 and 11, as our pioneers drew and filed their plat in 1856 (see story, page 6), the more heavily shaded area being the most heavily settled. The famous Half-Breed treaty line explains the troubles heaped

upon the pilgrims who settled north of it.

It is interesting to study how many family names carried forward from 1895—and for that matter, even to the present.



1895

Elgin Township

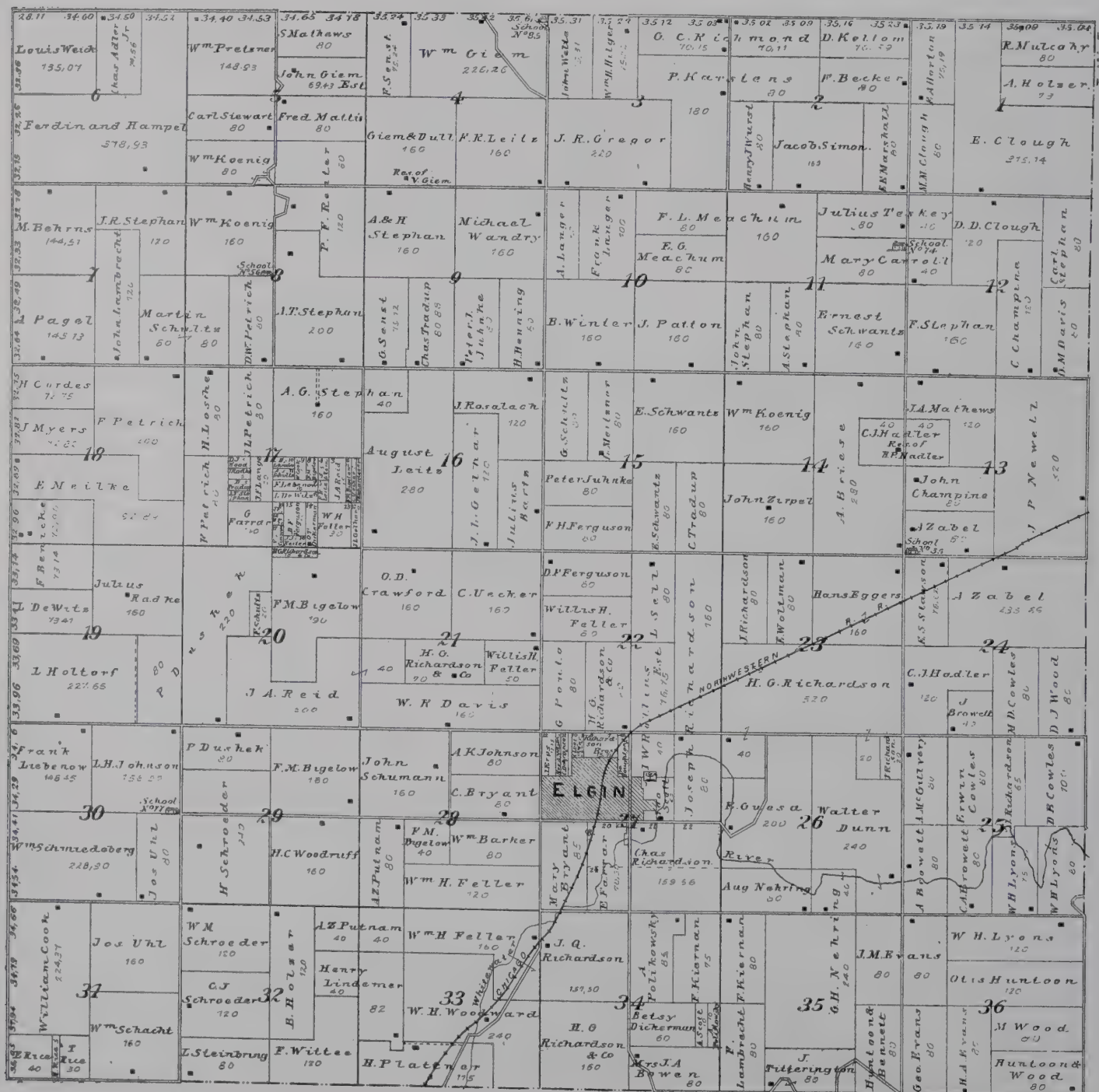
1895

T108N - R12W
Wabasha County, Minnesota

Elgin township has two farms which have been in the same family for the full century: the original William Gien farm in Section 4; and the I. W. Rollins acreage in Sections 22 and 27.

The 1856 claim staked by Mr. Rollins' brother Orvis (Odd) of whom he makes reference so generously

in his journals is listed on this plat to H. G. Richardson & Co. in Section 22. The original frame house, now gone, stood vacant among its dense lilac bushes for many years. As the "haunted house on the hill", it attracted the more imaginative or courageous youth to investigate—when they weren't snipe hunting, of course.



1915

Elgin Township

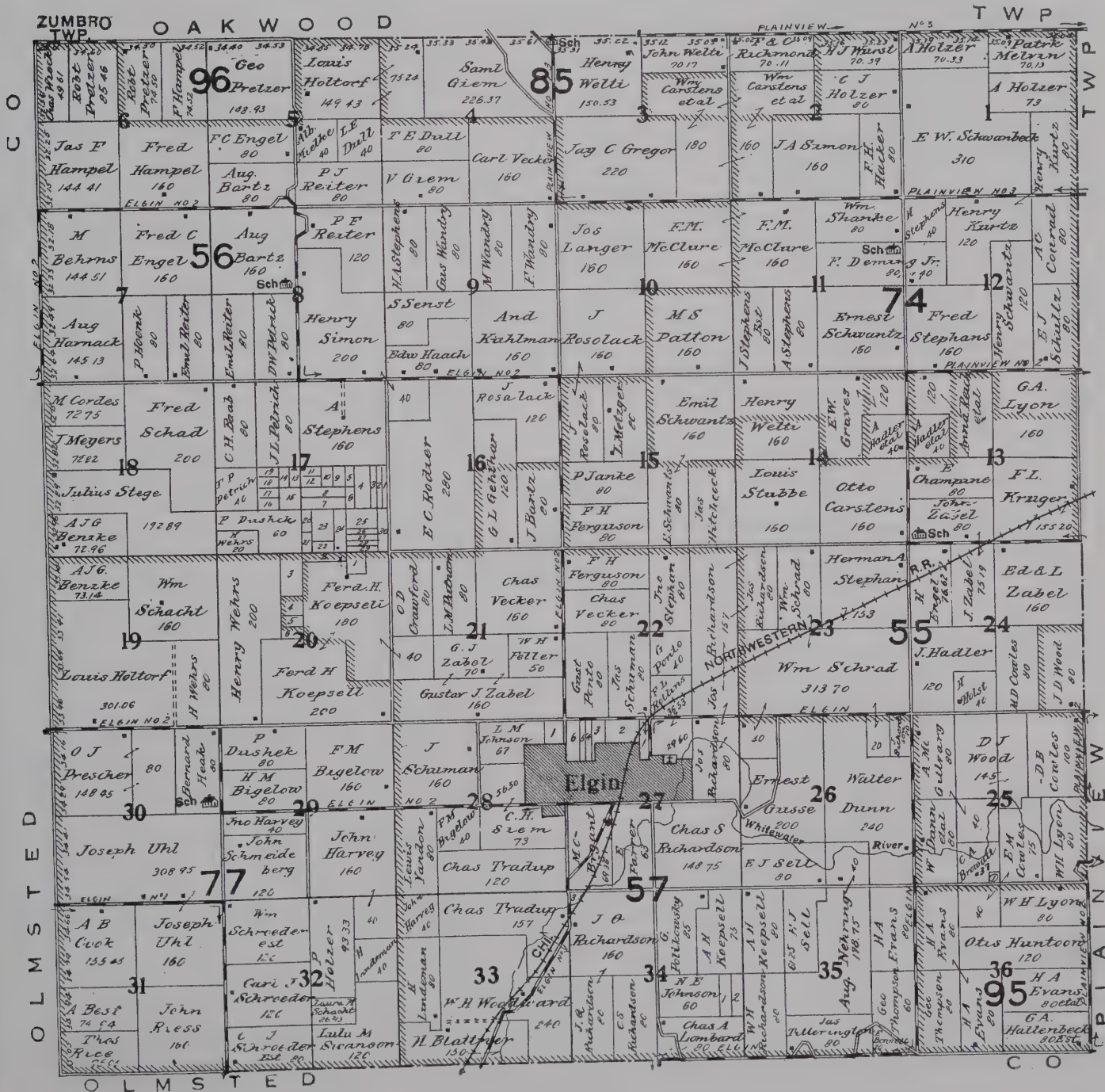
1915

T108N - R12W

Wabasha County, Minnesota

Notice how the village plat was ambitiously increased since 1895. And how the "Big Woods" in Section 17 is divided into some 30 parcels. It's hard to remember that wood was as necessary as the "staff of life", isn't it?

Also there are the same number of schoolhouses in the same places as on the earlier plat. In our centennial year they have almost faded into the same dim category and way of life as the horse and buggy.



1895

Highland Township

1895

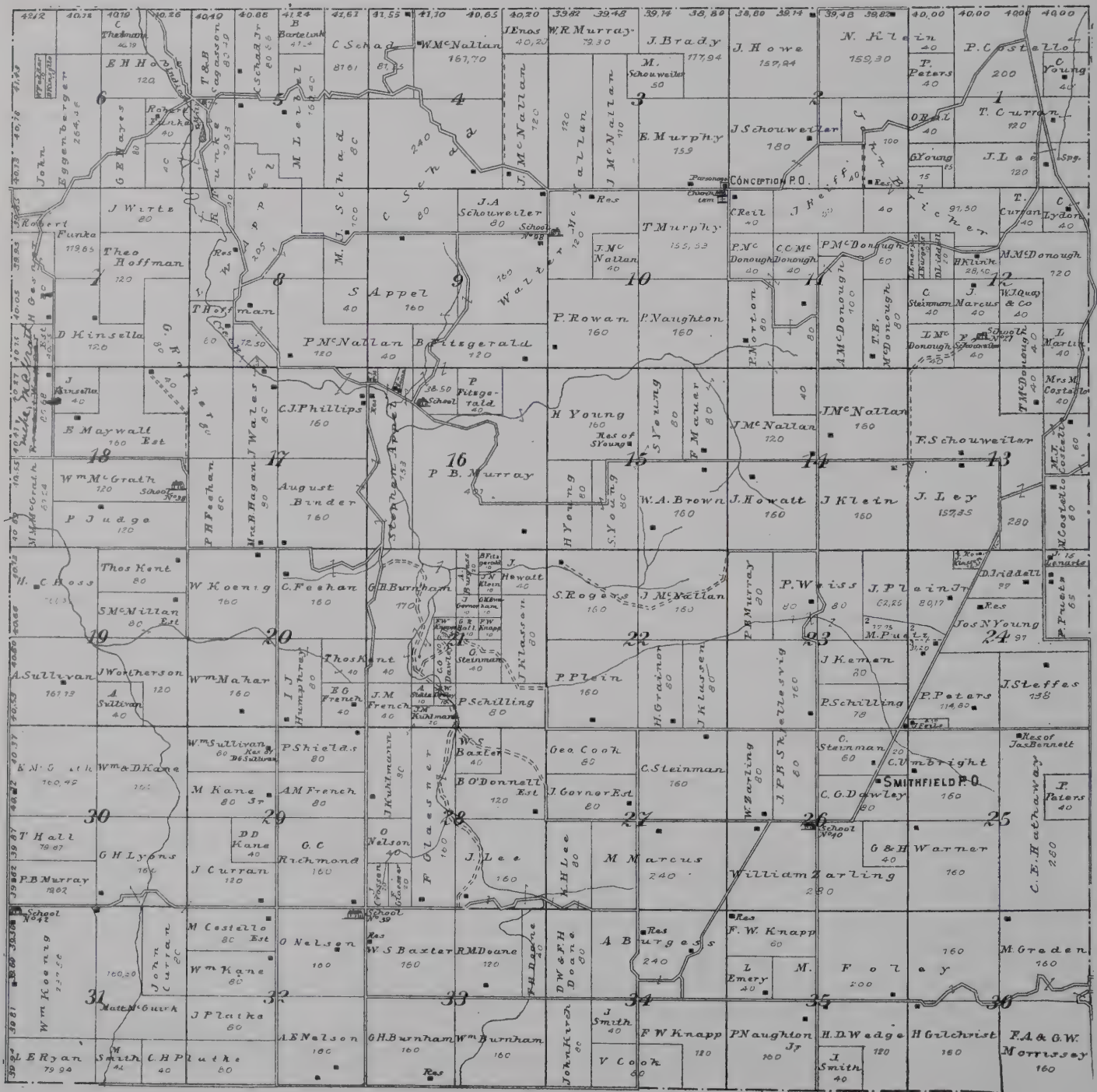
T109N - R11W

Wabasha County, Minnesota

Highland too, has a centennial farm, the R. M. (Merritt) Doane place in Section 33, now owned by his grandson.

It is easy to find Smithfield—its school, postoffice and even the Feils blacksmith shop. Also Conception

with its postoffice, church and cemetery. But can you find the little hamlet once called Lyons which had a store and postoffice? One clue—it was near the Appel Mill, which in turn was near the fork in West Indian Creek.



1915

Highland Township

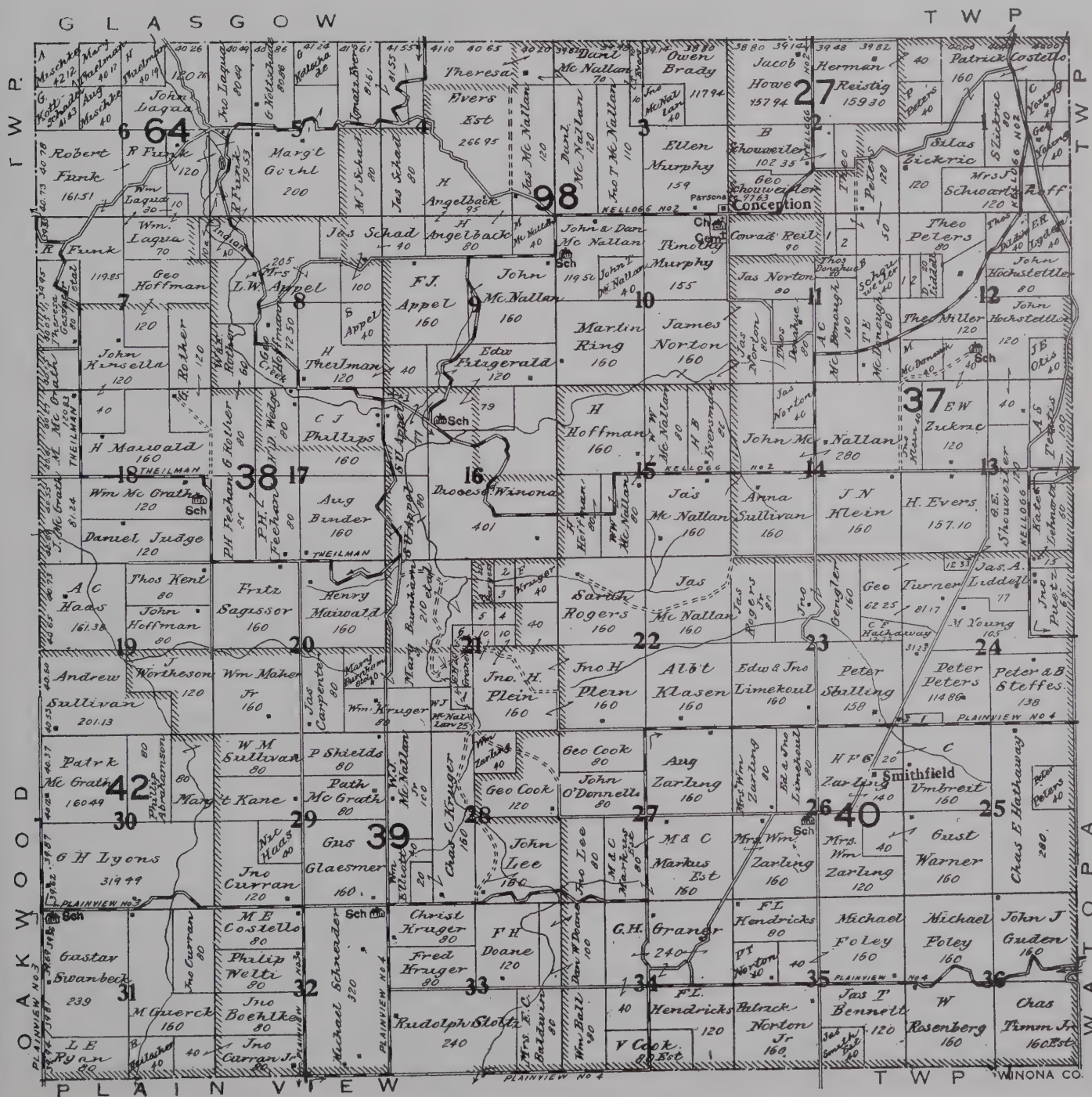
1915

T109N - R11W

Wabasha County, Minnesota

Despite Highland's lying entirely within the Half-Breed Tract and encountering the most difficulty in establishing title to its lands, many of the 1915 land-owners can be found in the 1860 census on page 14.

And there is probably more repetition of these names in today's Plainview directory than for almost any other township. Once a Highlander, always a Highlander.



1895

Oakwood Township

1895

T109N - R11W

Wabasha County, Minnesota

Today we think of Bremen as being in Hyde Park township; however the first "Bremen Corners", which consisted of store, hotel and postoffice founded by one of the Behrens brothers, was on the township line just inside Oakwood (then, of course, called Pell) in the NW corner of Section 31.

Can you find the Norwegian Methodist Church on the original Millville Road? And the 40-acre tract in Section 13 where St. James Catholic Church stood? All that remains there now are a few graves in the old churchyard.



1915

Oakwood Township

1915

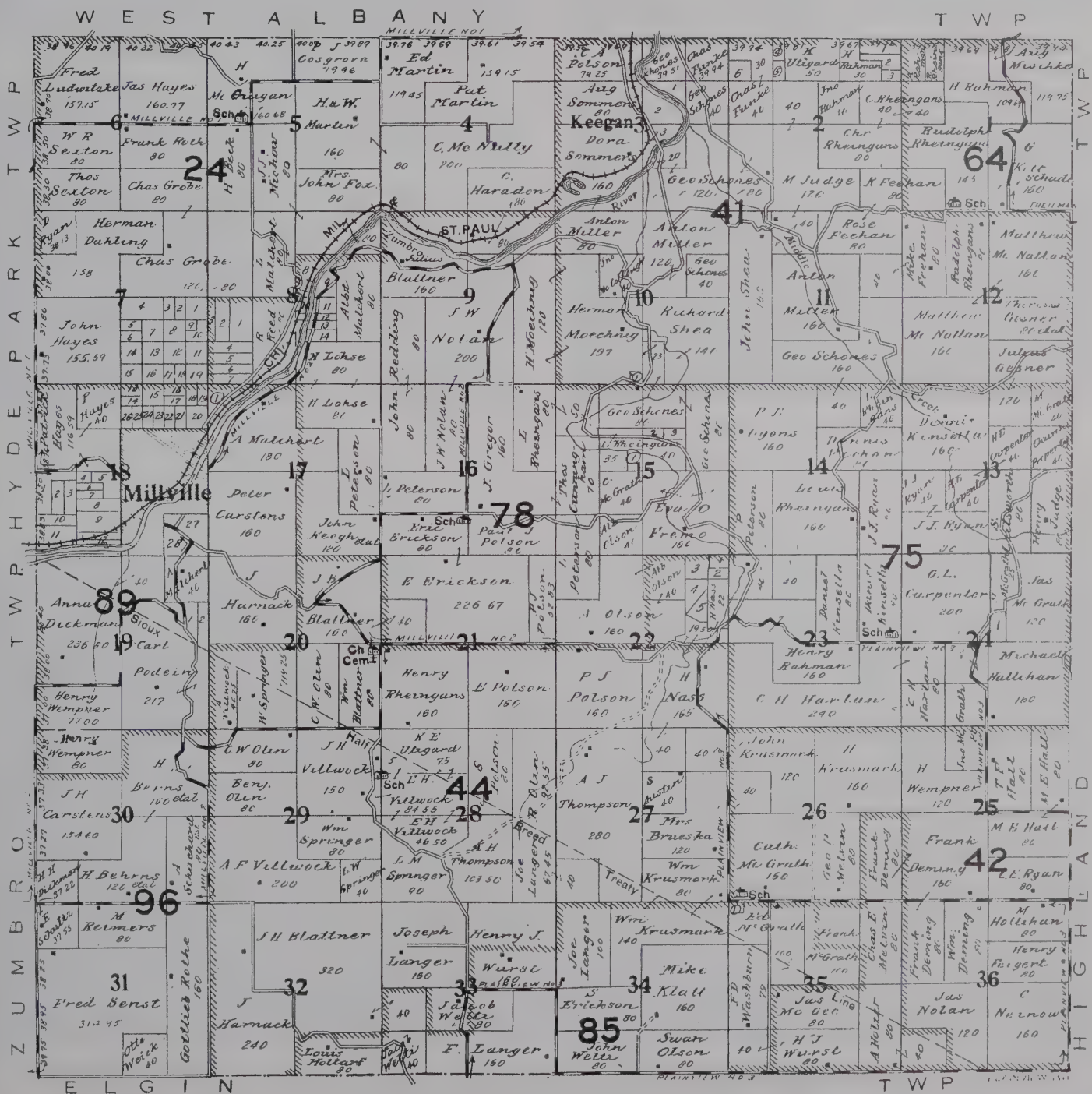
T109N - R11W

Wabasha County, Minnesota

Do you remember the busy little narrow gauge railway which built Millville into a thriving village and Keegan as a station? And all of the excursion trains, both for the scenic beauty of the Zumbro valley and

during the excitement of the lead-mining era?

Oakwood, with its interesting geography, supposedly has worthy Indian history, including many earth mounds and almost prehistoric caves.



Plainview Public School

The first hall of higher learning in the town of Plainview (then called Greenwood) was built in the spring of 1856 in the settlement of Greenville, on Section 10, about two and a half miles east of present Plainview, less than a year after the advent of the first band of Yankee settlers, with William Boatman sawing the timber and Ezra Eddy riving the shingles by hand. This building was about 16x24 feet, and was opened with some 20 scholars for the "summer term" in June, 1856. Miss Annie White, daughter of Roscoe N. White, was the first teacher and continued there for several years. She soon had over 60 pupils crowded into the little building for each term, it being the only school on the prairie.

Early in 1858 the first school within the so-called village of Plainview opened in David VanWort's carpenter shop with a man named Judge Hale from Vermont as "master". However, in less than two years this "commodious" arrangement had so completely outgrown itself that classes were moved into a High Street building owned by Dr. Federal Gibbs as an office and drugstore. *(This building was placed in our city park in the 1920's through the efforts of Mrs. Minnie O'Connell and stood there for some time as a little museum.)*

In 1860 a report signed by Gardner Melendy to the State Department showed Plainview township to have two log buildings, but he had visited five "schools", the others being conducted in rural homes or abandoned buildings temporarily loaned for school purposes.

Dr. Gibbs' building proved inadequate also, and with classes overflowing into private homes, our next move was for the district to purchase an existing building *(some histories say it was the old Episcopal church but we find no record of such)*, moving it onto the present school site donated by James Butts and providing two teachers in the same room. This school lasted through the Civil War, being used by several church societies for their services and as a town hall where all of the "rousing" meetings were held during the Civil War.

By 1866 plans were laid for a larger two-story school. The old building was purchased by the "Disciples" (Church of Christ) and moved to make room for the new structure. For the next year classes were held in Wilcox Hall (the second floor of the present

Eggers Grocery). Ready for occupancy in 1867, the new two-story building cost just under \$16,000 and had six classrooms on first floor with a chapel or auditorium upstairs serving also as an opera house and town hall. Before 1870 two more rooms were added and a full High School installed.

But history again repeated itself, and in 1903 work commenced on another larger brick building 66x100, an impressive brick structure costing \$36,000. Highly rated scholastically, this school housed a full curriculum until February 12, 1924, when the building together with all records burned.

Plainview quickly rallied to the catastrophe. An early spring vacation was called, and within that week classes were organized and resumed in the churches and halls throughout the village. Meanwhile, work began almost immediately to replace our school, this time with one of Gothic design and greater facilities at a cost of \$175,000, dedicated May 22, 1925. Built for a capacity of 430 students, this school today in 1956 houses over 750 pupils and employs 32 teachers, with all special departments such as industrial arts, home economics, commercial training, physical education and music still in the curriculum.

However, on October 22, 1955, the community, by a large majority, approved a \$900,000 bond issue to be used in the erection of a 15-room elementary school together with a multi-purpose building for both grades and high school usage and also for the remodeling of the present structure into a modern high school. The new school will house 900 students and is to be completed before the opening of school in September, 1957. Our present administrator, S. L. Johnson, has been with us since 1936, and to him goes much credit for the high standards and rating of our school under the most crowded conditions in our history.

In 1870 the Historical Atlas of Minnesota in describing Plainview's school said, "Probably not a town in the Northwest, containing no greater population, has expended more in the cause of education than the people of this village". Today, in 1956 we are proud to have kept faith with our forefathers *ab initio una voce*.



Plainview's First "Graded" School
1867-1903



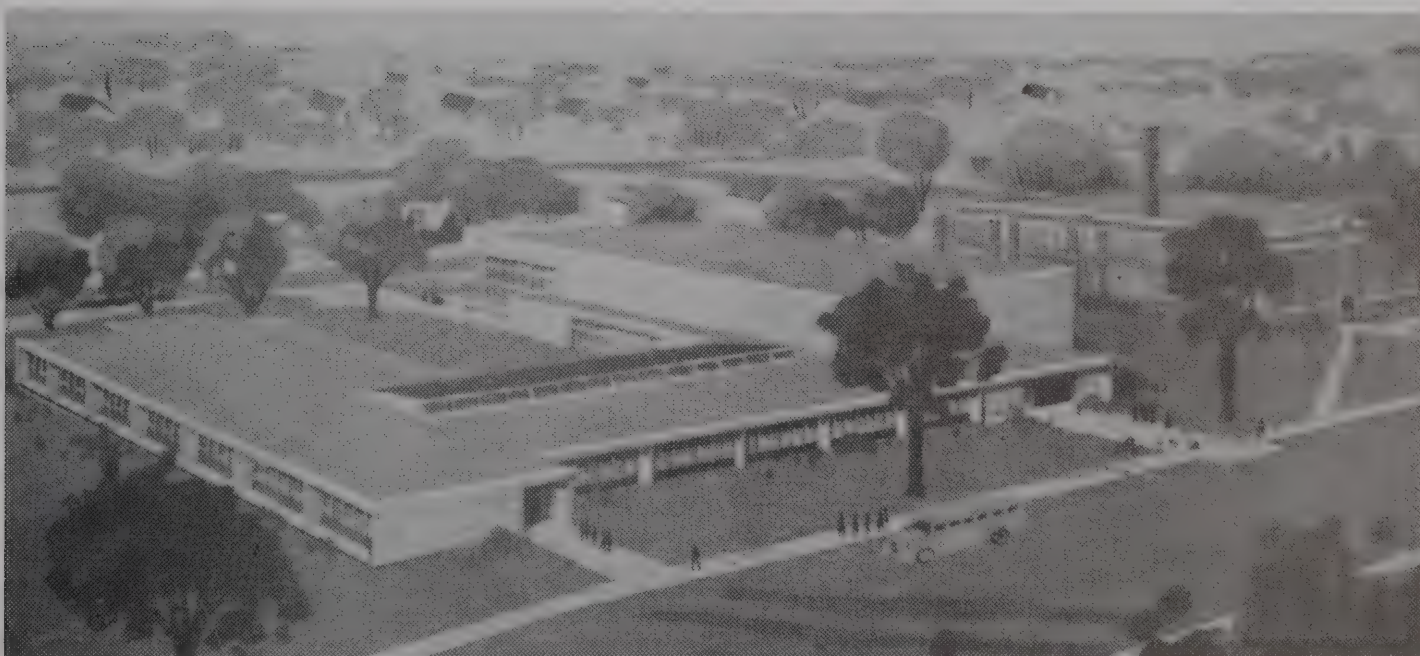
All Brick and Stone and Stylish
1903-1924



The Conflagration
February 12, 1924



Our Present School
1925-1957



Five Towers to God's Kingdom

We thank thee Lord for thy bountiful blessings, and beseech thee to continue thy mercies upon us. AMEN

... As it was in the beginning, our pilgrims were too debt-ridden and busy making progress to immediately set about building chapels or meeting places, but they did not forget their God. He walked with them every step as they tilled the fields, built homes and fought off starvation for their families. And they held their "meetings" on Sunday as regularly and solemnly as though they had the benefit of clergy and a church lined with pews.

We have five congregations and a like number of edifices in Plainview village today. There is a very early record of an Episcopalian society, also a strong Baptist society until about 1880, but there is no clue as to where these societies met other than private homes and the various schoolhouses.

For our first 25 years ministers and priests were called circuit riders, traveling a wide territory and conducting formal services in each place never oftener than twice a month. By that time most of our societies had stabilized to support not only a church of their own but a resident minister.

PLAINVIEW METHODIST CHURCH

Our first religious organization was effected while our town was still called Centerville, when in 1857 the Rev. O. P. Crawford of Forest Mound organized a "class" including the famous Mr. Blackwell, Guerdon and Saphronia Town, Matilda Todd and Edwin L. Ball.



This group grew into the Methodist Episcopal Society whose records go back to 1859. The first members to appear on record are Hiram and Phoebe Allen, with George Sylvester and Samuel McLaughlin as class leaders. Early trustees of record were John Yale, James Lynch, C. C. Cornwell, E. C. White, G. A. Frizzell, E. B. Eddy, Dr. J. P. Waste and J. R. McLaughlin. The present membership is 150.

Now Plainview's oldest landmark, the Methodist Church has always stood on the same site on Jefferson Street since the first chapel, a simple rectangular

affair, 33x60 feet, was erected in 1866 at a cost of \$4,000. In the early 1890's memorial windows changed the appearance of the old chapel and a large two-story front was added extending to the sidewalk, where it stood until 1948 when the entire structure was moved back to its present location onto its first full basement which serves as an auditorium and dining hall.

The first parsonage was erected in 1867 on the corner lot east of the Plainview Coop. Creamery, the present parsonage being built on the church property in 1890. Among the ministers serving during the century have been the Reverends Crawford, Benjamin Crist, S. W. Rice, H. G. Bilbie, G. F. Wells, Peter Care, Frank Cowgill, Alfred Cressey, W. L. Langrell, W. M. Gillis, W. E. King, O. M. Johnston, H. F. Ackerman, Lincoln Hughes, E. A. Palmer, Oscar Smith, Joseph Jeffrey, J. R. Hitchcock, Jesse Kenderdins, James E. Rains, R. Prescott, Wm. Wooley, H. D. Bossuet, I. N. Goodell, C. F. H. Guse, Paul Ludden, C. F. Baenziger, G. H. Chant and Chas. Sheffield, the present pastor.

In 1927 the Methodists federated with the Congregationalists, remaining together until 1936 under the unofficial name of the Union Church. During the federation, the Revs. G. E. Martin, C. W. Gilman, C. E. Sautter and F. Greene served as pastors.

The Methodist Sunday School, organized in 1861 with Franklin Sylvester as superintendent, has for many years been under the able direction of Miss Mae Hassig. Its present enrollment is 85. A film strip prepared by Dr. and Mrs. Mahle, illustrating what can be done in the Sunday School kindergarten is being widely shown and sought by churches throughout the area and in other states.

The Epworth League and Standard Bearers, early and active youth groups of the church, were merged into one in 1940, now known as the MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship).

The earliest women's group was the Priscilla Society formed in 1900, giving way to the Ladies' Aid in 1916 with Mmes. Olive Wood, Frank Washburn and M. J. Manchester as early leaders. The Women's Foreign Missionary Society received its charter in 1906 with Mrs. G. R. Hall, Mrs. G. F. Sylvester, Mrs. Hitchcock, Miss Mary Bolton and Mrs. Wm. Lyons as first officers.

All working societies became one unit known as the Women's Society of the Christian Service in 1940, with Mrs. Margaret Mundt as first President. There are three active "Circles" within the WSCS. This energetic group takes heavy responsibility in the physical upkeep of the church as well as Mission effort.

The men, not to be left behind, organized the Methodist Men's Club in 1951 and received their National charter in 1954. With a membership of 37, this group has accomplished much in the constant remodeling and care of the premises.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Church of Christ, with a present membership of 75, had an early beginning in 1861 when Rev. Abraham Shoemaker organized the Society of Christians with Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Freer, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. David Ackley, Mrs. Hiram Butts and Mrs. James Butts as charter members. The first year they held their services in Wilcox Hall, then using the school house until 1866 when they purchased the school building and moved it onto Church Street just south of the present Community Church. Here they remodeled it into their first chapel, where they worshipped until this site became railroad right-of-way in 1878, when they purchased their present Broadway location and again moved the building.



This first chapel served until 1895 when their present church was built, this time the little old chapel being remodeled into a parsonage which was later sold to other parties. However, in 1918 during the pastorate of Harry J. Hill, the congregation repurchased it and rebuilt it into a larger and comfortable manse. So today, deep within its walls, the present parsonage encloses what was Plainview's first publicly owned schoolhouse.

In 1902, less than seven years after the present church was built, the congregation was free of debt. The pulpit desk used today was made by Elder S. M. Stockwell more than 86 years ago.

Earlier known as the Disciples of Christ (Deciples) and sometimes referred to as Campbellites for one of their founders, Alexander Campbell, the Church of Christ received its charter of incorporation as the "Christian Church" in 1874, with John Truax as president and Dwight Leach as secretary; Daniel Clough, John R. Watkins, W. W. Freer, S. M. Stockwell, Henry Horton, and E. Clough acting as trustees. Among the resident ministers serving the Church of Christ throughout the years have been Abraham Shoemaker, B. U. Watkins, James Denton, John Truax, Joseph Harrison, E. T. C. Bennett, H. D. Williams, C. W. Martz, T. E. Utterbach, G. U. Wise, G. R. Morgan, J. M. Dixon, B. L. Hoffman, H. J. Hill. Also Ira Foulk, Clarence Martin, Roy Ford, Wm. McClurg, Ernest Molloy, Manson

Miller, Celia Brown, Russell Casey, William Seeley, Erwin Marshall, Burdette Wakeman, and Harvey Smith, the present pastor.

The Lydian Missionary Society has long been active within the church, organizing in the early 1920's. Still living among the charter members are Mrs. Nellie Venables and Mrs. Alida Finch of Detroit.

The Church of Christ has a well organized youth movement, emphasis being placed on their Sunday school, Bible School and Christian Endeavor society.

PLAINVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

The Plainview Community Church now occupies the former Congregational church which actually had its earliest beginning in June, 1856, when the Rev. Jonathan Cochran, a Congregational Clergyman living in Elgin township, commenced giving regular sermons in the newly built Greenville schoolhouse.

A few years later a Congregational group was formed in the village of Plainview, meeting at the various homes and Wilcox Hall and depending on circuit riders as well as Rev. Cochran for its sermons until one Sunday afternoon in September, 1863, when the Rev. Henry Willard, then stationed at Zumbrota, delivered a sermon at the Plainview schoolhouse. He was prevailed upon to come to Plainview to organize a church, and shortly accepted the call.



The Plainview Congregational Church was organized on October 7, 1863, with 28 charter members electing N. T. Manly and Jeremiah Baldwin first deacons with S. H. Gaylord, clerk. The Rev. Willard shortly moved his family to Plainview, and regular Sunday afternoon services were conducted in Wilcox Hall, the Methodist Church, and the Disciples Chapel until by subscription they erected their present imposing edifice on the corner of Broadway and Church Streets in 1871. This chapel, together with vestry, cost \$7,000, a large part of which was donated by Rev. Willard who remained with the church until 1885 and received 257 new members into the congregation during his pastorate.

In 1887 the congregation purchased two lots on Jefferson Street and built a parsonage which was later purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Duerre and is their present home. The present manse west of the church was built in 1900. The Congregational pastors serving over the years have been Rev. Willard 1863-85, Rev. J. B. Henshaw 1885-90, Rev. A. L. Loomis 1890-95, Rev. A. J. Williams 1895-97, Rev. F. J. Brown 1897-99, Rev. F. H. Anderson 1900-03, Rev. A. D. Adams 1903-05, Rev. W. E. Griffith 1905-08, Rev. H. C. Todd 1909-16, Rev. J. L. Jones 1916-20, Rev. Wm. Osborn 1920-22, Rev. T. H. Jones 1922-23, Rev. A. L. Axt 1923-24, Rev. Ardell Look 1925-26 and Rev. L. E. Kennedy 1927.

In 1927 the Congregational and Methodist churches federated and were known as the Union Church, maintaining their separate ladies' and youth societies but holding their services and Sunday Schools conjointly until 1936, using the Congregational chapel for services, with Methodist Ministers serving. During this time the pews were removed from the Methodist chapel to the Congregational Church, the main floor of the Methodist building being used as an auditorium, dining hall and Junior Bible school.

In 1936 some of the members of the Federation united to organize the present Community church with Presbyterian affiliation, taking over the Congregational building and adding social and Sunday School rooms and a new kitchen. The Community Church has had as pastors Rev. Marshall Olson, 1936-39, Rev. C. F. Stratton 1939-51, Rev. Edw. Deihl 1951-53 and Rev. W. J. Brown since 1953. The congregation has recently joined the Sheldon-Jackson Presbytery and is presently choosing a name for Plainview's new Presbyterian Church.

When work began in 1955 on a major remodeling a metal box was discovered in the cornerstone containing church records dating from its inception. Before replacing the box a new list of the present 190 active members was added.

The Ladies' Aid was organized in 1894, with membership including Mrs. J. M. Carpenter, Mrs. Carrie Davis, Mrs. Carrie Boyd, Mrs. Ida LaRocque, Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Frank Washburn, Mrs. Lena Parr, Mrs. Jeremiah Baldwin, Mrs. C. D. Burchard, Mrs. Chas. Gregg, Mrs. Geo. Purvis, and Misses Lottie Damoude, Ella Weikel, Zula Burchard, Grace Landon and Maude Wells. In 1917 the Ladies' Aid assumed its present name, The Guild, with Mrs. M. McFarlin and Mrs. Slocumb as officers.

The Missionary society commenced in 1930 with Mmes. E. L. Martin, Geo. Duerre, Emil Schwanbeck, J. A. Slocumb, Evan Green, J. A. Carley and Blake Fisk as members.

The Youth Fellowship groups were organized in 1942 by Rev. Stratton.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

As early as 1870, when the area began to fill with Lutheran settlers, these German pioneers attacked the problem of worship with the same zeal and ingenuity they applied to farming. Since no regular ordained minister was available, they worshipped by themselves in private homes, singing hymns from the old hymnals, taking turns reading a sermon from Walther's sermon book and offering the prayers and benediction.



From 1873 to 1876 Rev. August Sippels came from Trinity Lutheran Church at Potsdam to serve the flock. In the fall of 1875 the first Lutheran congregation was officially organized with 25 charter members. The name chosen was Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod). August Binder, August Goetz, Franz Neumann, Wilhelm Radtke, Rev. G. A. Schaaf, August Stoltz, Gottlieb Wandry, Wilhelm Wegenke, August Zabel (and one other whose signature was illegible), all charter members, signed the first constitution in 1875.

From 1876 to 1886 Rev. M. Stuelpnagel served as pastor and from 1886 to 1891 Rev. G. A. Schaaf, both coming from Potsdam every two weeks.

The congregation soon outgrew the private home, renting the Christian Church until in 1890 the members built their own house of worship, a dignified white frame building with an imposing steeple, on the present site, the land being donated by Wm. Koenig. Feeling the need for their own resident pastor, Rev. G. Drews was called and installed in 1891, serving 31 years until the present pastor, Rev. Theodore Schoewe was installed in 1922.

The existing residence east of the chapel was purchased and, with extensive remodeling, still serves today as their parsonage.

The congregation increased so rapidly within two decades that the first church shortly proved inadequate. In 1916 it was removed and the present prominent brick edifice, costing \$25,000, was erected in its place. The same altar and bell installed in the original church in 1907 were re-installed in the new building. In 1928 a two-manual Kilgen organ with harp and chimes was installed.

By 1950 when Immanuel Lutheran celebrated its Diamond Jubilee, there were 825 baptized souls and 700 communicant members in the congregation.

Immanuel Lutheran has a 30-voice choir whose highlight of the year is their Christmas "Candlelight Service". They also have a Junior choir.

Rev. Theodore Schoewe, who has served his flock well since 1922 and has proudly watched it more than double, is this year retiring. Rev. Rodney Reise has been called to take his place.

Immanuel Lutheran, besides its many members who have entered the religious teaching profession, has also given four sons to the ministry: Rev. Theodore Schoewe, Jr., now stationed in Germany as an Army chaplain; Rev. Otto Neumann, now retired and living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Rev. Milton Haack, now serving at Cando, N. D.; and Rev. Dale Young at Fari-bault, Minnesota.

The first society to organize within the church was the Lutheran Ladies' Aid in 1914 with a charter membership of 10, of whom Miss Alvina Benck, Mmes. George Dickman, A. Stoltz, William Lamprecht, William Reiter and Edward Schultz are still active. Growing to a present roster of 70, this group of dedicated ladies has done much to not only support the home church but also to further all missionary projects.

The Priscilla Club was formed in 1938, its primary purpose being to help in the support of the Children's Friend Society, Minneapolis, and in 1949 received the Blue Ribbon Merit award as the best working society in the Minnesota district. Its charter members included Mmes. Sydney Stoltz, Theo. Schoewe, Herman Holst, Armin Zirbel, Robert Holst, Otto Zirbel, Anna Goetz, Erwin Claussen, Kenneth Goetz, Harry Wedge, Arthur Holst, August Goetz, Chris Moline, Ralph Glaesmer, August Mussell and Reuben Kruger.

Other working societies on the distaff side include the Dorcas Club and the Helping Hand Club both organized in 1938, who have contributed much in the cause of Christianity as well as the physical upkeep of the church.

The Lutheran Laymen's League was begun in 1944, and on March 16, 1945 a local chapter was formed, with 52 persons signing the constitution. Since this late beginning, the League has quadrupled its membership and is dedicated to participate in the work of the congregation, to aid in its business matters and to act as stewards of God within the congregation.

The "Mr. and Mrs." Club was formed by a younger group of some 25 members in 1952 to give general aid where needed to the church.

The church for many years has had an active youth organization, in both the Junior and Senior Walther Leagues, whose principles may be summed up as Service, Education and Recreation, all under Christian influence. The Senior Walther League yearly conducts the sale of Wheat Ridge Christmas seals for the support of this tubercular sanatorium.



New Lutheran School

The Lutheran Parochial School has, like the church, grown in leaps and bounds since its earliest beginnings. A small parochial school stood directly behind the first frame church, classes moving into the basement of the new brick church. This school was taught by the pastor until 1922 when the congregation employed its first full-time teacher. In 1940 the spacious residence just east of the parsonage was purchased and converted into a school and teacher residence. The present unit, an attractive modernistic brick structure containing two classrooms, library, office and basement dining room, was completed in April, 1952, at a cost of \$45,000, and provides adequately for the present enrollment of 65 pupils.

Teachers serving in the Christian Day School since 1922 have been L. Phillips, L. Beyerlein, E. Kolb, Misses Viola Friedeman and Emily Block, Martin Russert, Misses Eunice Conrad and Irma Rewalt, Mrs. Chester Bartz, Donald Staffeld, Misses Lorraine Neumann and Mary Olsen, Mrs. Ardell Schultz, Ed. Kaelberer and Mrs. Decker.

The "4th R" Club, with a membership of 25, was organized within the congregation in 1950 to support and maintain the parochial school.

The Immanuel Lutheran Sunday school has an enrollment of 198 pupils with 14 teachers from the congregation serving. Mr. Ed. Kaelberer, Christian Day School teacher, serves as superintendent. He is also choir director and organist.

ST. JOACHIM'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



The last, but now the largest, religious group to organize in Plainview was the Catholic. During 1866 St. James Church was erected in Oakwood. Some of the families attending were those of Wm. DeWitt, Michael Melvin, Richard Shaughnessy, Andrew Kuehn, Edward Hall, Michael Foley and John Mulligan.

Rev. James Trobec, resident priest at Wabasha, who had charge of the missions at St. James and the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Highland, rode to Plainview on horseback four to six times a year to say Mass in the Richard Shaughnessy home, now occupied by Mrs. August Kelch. The Catholic families from Plainview also attended St. James when the weather and roads permitted. Among the early Plainview parishioners were the Shaughnessy, James Lahey, DeWitt, Kuehn, Nicholas Petit and Michael Foley families.

Rev. P. B. Murray became pastor of the Immaculate Conception Church in 1883, also serving the Oakwood and Plainview Missions. The need for a church in Plainview became so urgent that Father Murray appointed Michael Melvin and Wm. DeWitt to locate property on which to build one. They chose the site of the present St. Joachim's Church. Rev. Murray purchased the land from Abbie Reading for \$350 as a gift to the people of his new parish. Later a house and some land was purchased from James Butts for \$3000.

Each family was assessed \$35, and the church, a small wooden structure with one altar and heated by a large woodburning stove, was built and dedicated in 1887. The first baptisms in the new church were those of Bernard Lahey, Trix Pendergas and Richard Melvin. Edward and Margaret Melvin and Nellie Sullivan were the first confirmands, and the first marriage was that of Daniel Judge and Delia Maher. The first funeral was conducted for the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. John Waste. The only church organization at that time was the "Total Abstinence Society for Men".

In 1889 a committee and Father Murray purchased a three-acre tract of land from James Butts for \$500 for St. Joachim's Cemetery. Father Murray selected a lot

in which he wished to be buried. Later when improvements were made by the first cemetery association, a large cross was erected on his lot.

Father Murray faithfully served the parish until 1900 when ill health forced him to resign. He was succeeded by Rev. John Parkinson, who served over eight years, during which time the church was enlarged.

Shortly after Rev. D. J. Lavery assumed the pastorate in 1908, the membership of St. Joachim's, already great, was increased still further by the burning of the St. James Church in Oakwood. In 1911 the first frame church was moved across the street, later being used as a parochial school for 2½ years and still later being purchased by the Greenwood Prairie Farmer's Club and moved east of Plainview as a club house. In its place the present beautiful red brick church with its white trim and tall towers, which can be seen for miles, was constructed. This imposing edifice was dedicated on a joyful summer day in June, 1912. A special train and many automobiles brought hundreds of visitors. The Plainview band met the train and escorted the visitors to the crowded church. Bishop Heffron of Winona delivered the dedicatory address, and the ladies of the parish served dinner to all. In 1918 the present parsonage was built.

Father Lavery was honored in 1924 by his parishioners on the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood and in 1930 was assigned by Bishop Kelly to St. Mary's Church in Lake City.

Father Lavery was succeeded by Rev. T. F. O'Connor, under whose supervision extensive church improvements were made and the church cleared of debt. Rev. Leo Neudecker and Rev. F. Klein each assisted him for short periods.

Father O'Connor's Golden Jubilee was celebrated May 17, 1948 on which occasion he was highly honored by the parish. Because of failing health he retired in 1950 and was succeeded by Rev. S. E. Mulcahy, the present pastor.

Besides making extensive improvements on the church property, Father Mulcahy was successful in purchasing the Roscoe Schwanbeck home in which to establish a convent. In August of 1951, Father Mulcahy and his parishioners warmly welcomed the Sisters of the Institute of St. Joseph from Ilanz, Switzerland. These Sisters had been conducting schools, hospitals and orphanages in Switzerland, Austria and Germany. Their order, which follows the rule of St. Dominic, was founded for the purpose of teaching as well as caring for the aged. Their convent in Plainview is the nucleus for a Motherhouse for their order in the United States. Besides being actively engaged in catechetical instruction of the children in Plainview, Conception, Kellogg, Elgin and Eyota, the four sisters also care for the altars, organize youth sodalities, train altar boys, direct choirs and give musical instruction to about 50 students.

**Dominican Convent**

There are many organizations in the parish. In the early years the ladies formed the Altar and Rosary Society with its purpose spiritual, but they lent a hand financially as well. It has a membership today of over 250.

The Knights of Columbus, with a present roster of 141, was organized March 26, 1915, with 34 charter members. This nation-wide fraternal organization has spearheaded the many Newman Clubs at colleges and universities throughout the United States. Matthew Siebenaler, John Keough and Frank Schad hold 50-year memberships, having belonged to other councils before the Plainview court was established.

Court 497 of the Catholic Daughters of America was organized April 24, 1920, with 34 members. This

is an active charitable organization doing good wherever needed.

Other societies are The Cemetery Association, Sacred Heart League, Holy Name and Holy Childhood. Each of these contributes in a special way to the needs of the parish.

St. Joachim's is justly proud of its sons and daughters who have chosen a religious vocation. First to answer the call was Rev. Frank McGeough who is now a missionary priest in Africa. Reared by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hart, he was ordained in 1946. Rev. Chester Gallagher, son of the late Chester Gallagher and Mrs. Elizabeth Gallagher, was ordained in 1950 and is now an assistant at St. Francis Church in Rochester. Louis Cook, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Cook, is a student at St. John's Seminary at Collegeville.

Eight girls have chosen to become nuns. They are: Sister Eleuthera (Margaret Gengler), Sister Ceritas (Helen Diming), Sister Uriel (Angela Diming), Sister Cordis (Leone Diming), all of the Order of St. Francis at Rochester, Minnesota; Sister Athanassus (Louise Schad), Order of Divine Providence, San Antonio, Texas; Sister M. Barbara (Dorothy Messer), Sister M. Bona (Bertha Ney), Sister M. Gordiania (Verna Ney), all of the Order of Our Sorrowful Mother, Milwaukee, Wis.; and Sister Ruth Ann (Genevieve Olin), Order of Notre Dame, Mankato, Minnesota.

The present membership of St. Joachim's Church is 1,188.

Plainview Fire Department

Our first hose-cart fire department was formed by 2 companies in 1896 with Arthur Koenig, Fred Weickel, Harry Smith, J. J. Erding, A. C. Woodcock, H. A. Weickel, W. R. Peyton, J. H. Eggers, August Hanson, Charles Richmond, George Purvis, Adolph Brieze, Albert Koenig, Wm. Riefkogel, H. G. Austin and R. D. LaRocque as charter members in Company I. In Company II there were Dan McFarlin, Will Hutchinson, Charles Ritter, Arthur DePuy, Iley Grove, Jay Cope-

land, L. Sundquist, R. Burkhardt, Steve McLaren, Mart McFarlin, Charles Gorrell, Guy Marshall, Henry Dear-dorf, J. P. Waste, Jr., Otto Huney, Alfred Grove, George Miller and Harry Evans.

Besides donations, funds were raised by dances, foot races and other home talent benefits. The early hose carts and other equipment were stored in Petit's livery on Washington Street, shown in the background below.

**The Plainview Fire Department — As It Serves the Community Today**



PUB. BY J. J. STONER, MADISON, WIS.

1. Public School.
2. Plainview Hotel, Gregg & Feller, Prop.
3. C. & N. W. Depot.
4. G. R. Hall, Lumber Yard.
5. Yoeman Bro's & Hodgins Lumber Yard.
6. Bank, Amerland & Larue.

PANORAMA
PLAINVIEW
 WABASHA CO.



BECK & PAULI LITH. MILWAUKEE, WIS.

C VIEW OF

PLAINVIEW.

MINNESOTA 1880

- 7. Cemetery.
- 8. Congregational Church.
- 9. Methodist " "
- 10. Deciples " "
- 12. Elevator.
- 13. Flouring Mill.

For the Four Freedoms

Plainview is probably more justifiably proud of her war effort and record than any other part of her heritage. While space and lack of records prevents our listing all of the men and women who went to war for the preservation of our freedom, when we went to war we went "all out".

AMERICAN LEGION

WILLIAM ALLEN POST No. 179

The American Legion Post formed in September, 1919, was named the William Allen Post in honor of the first World War I casualty. The 24 charter members were: Alfred Allen*, George Baker*, Harold Boyd, Lester Carpenter, Bob Crary*, James Depuy, Alvin Dickman, George Ehrenberg, Mike Foley, Fred Foreman, Ernest Goetz, Fred Hart*, Rudy Hostettler, Dave Leonard, Mike Leonard, Ralph Murray*, George Nolan, Edgar Nunamaker, Irl Richmond*, George Sanders, Paul Smith, Ben Stephans, Gil Timm* and Harry Yetter*.

In addition to fostering the teaching of American principals and the preservation of American traditions for which its members fought, the post sponsors and supports many educational and civic projects including the Plainview School Patrol, Boy Scout and Explorer Troop, Junior Legion baseball team, Boys' State representative, the Veterans Hospital and State School for Boys.

They are presently erecting a \$26,000 community building.

*Deceased.

Since the Civil War we have sent to battle—in untold numbers—our men and women, many of whom sacrificed their lives at the altar of freedom.

With equal fervor, the cause of freedom and democracy is pursued in peacetime by our service organizations and their auxiliaries.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

The charter was granted to the William Allen American Legion Post Auxiliary in 1921 with 15 members signing the charter: Mmes. T. A. Askew*, Virginia Davey, G. H. Dickman, Carrie Downing*, George Duerre, Sarah Duerwaechter*, Emma Ehrenberg*, A. J. Erding*, Lillian Holst*, W. H. Holst*, Hannah Leonard*, W. G. Mack*, Louis Rheingans*, S. F. Smith* and E. L. Sylvester*.

Building to a present membership of 97, this group has, since its inception, concentrated on welfare work for the veteran and his family. Along these lines, they conduct poppy and forget-me-not sales for the furtherance of welfare work, sponsor Girls' State representatives and the annual March of Dimes Drive as well as assisting the parent post in its welfare and community work.

The Gold Star mothers for World War I are Mrs. Virginia Davey* (*Thaddeus*), Mrs. Sarah Duerwaechter* (*Frederick*) and Mrs. Christ Holt (*Martin*). For World War II: Mrs. Andrew Armstrong* (*Everett*), Mrs. Fred Boie (*Millard*), Mrs. Walton Boyd (*Walton, Jr.*), Mrs. Andrew Gilcreast (*William*), Mrs. Richard Gusa (*James*), Mrs. Martin Haase (*Orville*), Mrs. Frank McGrath (*Robert*), Mrs. Ella Owens (*Gerald*), Mrs. Grace Pletsch (*Edward Wedge*), Mrs. George Pretzer (*Lyle*), Mrs. Fred Richardson (*John*), Mrs. Herman Schadock (*Roland Gusa*) and Mrs. Arthur Walch (*Donald*). Another gold star was added in the Korean War for Mrs. Peter Kruger (*Donald*).



The Drum Corps in Full Regalia — 1926

First Row: Mike Foley, Mike Leonard, Fred Nettekoven, George Kroening, Guy Ashcroft, George Douglass, Dave Leonard, Vern Johnson, Ed Lindsay, John Mikkelsen. Top row: Alfred Burkhardt, Wm. Milbrandt, Wm. Thone, John Hardtke, Tom Askew, George Ehrenberg, Harold Boyd, Alvin Dickman.

OLD GLORY GOES TO WAR



(Minnesota Historical Society Photo)

Upon the first call of President Lincoln for troops, impromptu meetings were held all over the county, resulting in the formation of Company I of the famous Minnesota 1st Regiment which took the honors at Bull Run. As this regiment passed down the river toward battle, the boat landed at the Wabasha levee for Company I to have a final goodbye with family and friends. A group of public-spirited ladies presented this beautiful silk flag to Capt. Pell who gave the assurance in behalf of his Company I that her colors should never be surrendered. He kept his word; and the flag with its battle scars from the bloody struggles of Bull Run, Antietam and the Wilderness, was returned to the state. It is now in the safe keeping of the Minnesota Historical Society.

G. A. R. AUSTIN D. CARROLL POST

This post was named for Austin D. Carroll, our first Civil War casualty, who fell at Nashville as did Charles G. Dawley, Jr. The Post was chartered in 1884 with the following charter members (now all deceased):

R. H. Anderson, W. S. Baxter, H. P. Boyd, W. J. Burns, J. C. Burton, E. Balcom, DeWitt Clark, J. Christison, J. D. Cleveland, E. R. Cornwell, S. Card, O. D. Carter, R. W. Chapman, R. W. Davis, Darnel, C. W. Donaldson, D. R. Damoude, C. S. Fisk, G. C. French, W. Freer, M. Farley, Z. Foster, D. Greve, D. Hutchinson, Mr. Horr, Mr. Hall, Mr. Horton, Mr. Hardenberg, W. Hardy, J. Jones, F. Knapp, Wm. Lawton, E. Martin, I. Martin, Jas. McGee, I. M. March, P. Neihede, C. Osgood, T. Parr, G. C. Richmond, J. Ross, J. L. Safford, Wm. Sullivan, Mr. Seymour, Mr. Underwood, Mr. Van Horn, Mr. Whitney, J. P. Waste, R. Wright, A. Allen, A. Garrison, G. Allen, B. Bennett, R. Stillman, G. Gillmon, G. Wilcox, J. Wales, C. Pratt, G. Redy, W. McNallen, J. Orcutt, F. Appleby, P. Smith, A. Pomeroy, J. Grice, D. Davis, J. Schlitz, C. Murphy, B. Baker, J. B. Norton, E. Westover, Wm. Hagen, and J. Story.

G. A. R. CIRCLE NO. 36

The Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Plainview G.A.R. Circle No. 36 was organized in 1898 with 14 charter members: Mellissa Clark*, Adell Cornwell*, Hattie Damoude*, Lottie Damoude, Ellen Evans*, Minnie Fisk*, Electa Hall*, Ellen Hardy*, Anna Koenig*, Sunie Marshall*, Inez Meachum*, Nellie Waste Venables and Elizabeth Van Horn*.

There are now 31 members who take an active part in supplying gifts to servicemen, providing for the G.A.R. Home at Anoka, decorating old soldiers' graves and assisting in all worthy civic projects.

GILCREAST-WEDGE VFW POST

In August, 1945, ten overseas veterans met and formed the Veterans of Foreign Wars. They chose the name Gilcreast-Wedge Post No. 4371 in honor and memory of Lt. William Leroy Gilcreast and Pfc. Edward A. Wedge, both of whom were killed in action during World War II.

Organizing the post were Harvey Eggers*, Ralph Firzlaff, Michael Mason, Jr., Howard Zarling, Harry Melvin, Arthur Elliott*, George Koenig, William P. Nelson, George Sagissor and Wray Stitch.

Their purposes are the preservation of the four freedoms, assistance to needy veterans and their families and support of the VFW Home at Eaton Rapids, Michigan. Among the community activities they have sponsored is a village baseball team.

VFW AUXILIARY

The Auxiliary of the Gilcreast-Wedge Post No. 4371 was organized in October 1945, with 45 women on its charter: Mmes. L. S. Siebenaler, A. Mussell, L. Mundt, L. Majerus, G. Koenig, W. Boyd, L. LaCroix, G. Heaser, G. Schmidt*, R. Kruger, E. Moon, F. Nienow, M. Haase, E. Gallagher, G. Pretzer, C. Haessig, W. Nelson, L. McFarlin, H. Zarling, R. Mussell, H. Schwantz, C. Edwards, J. Kohn, F. Deming, L. Wood, J. Keough, Blanch Mussell, A. Elliott, F. Grummons, A. Armstrong*, J. Mulligan, A. Gilcreast, P. Kruger, F. Heaser, H. Dittrich, E. Schad, Ruth Jostock, Helen Boie, Ethyl Sylvester, Mary Grieve, Lottie Lyons, Eva Elgin, Mae Harlan, Grace Pletsch, Rose Lehnertz.

This group, in addition to pursuing the right of freedom, assists in activities of the parent post, Christmas Cheer Boxes to the Children's Home, local and community welfare work and the VFW Poppy sale.

*Deceased.

DAUGHTERS OF AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The Abigail Burnham Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was formed in 1908 with 13 charter members including Mmes. Miller Bolton, James Carley, E. R. Cornwell*, J. H. Eggers*, Blake Fisk, J. W. Mallory*, B. J. Rohweder*, J. A. Slocumb, E. E. Smith*, Wm. Griffith* and Misses Elsie Burnham and Maude Cornwell. The Chapter has a present membership of 21.

The D. A. R. spends 65% of their money for education, solely supporting two schools and contributing to the support of 11 others. They are vitally interested in national defense, and their genealogical library in Washington is one of the most complete in the world.

PLAINVIEW COMMERCIAL CLUB

Since well before the turn of the century our businessmen have been united as a group for civic betterment, but the Plainview Commercial Club was incorporated in 1912 by a group of enterprising businessmen and farmers "to advance the commercial, mercantile, manufacturing and agricultural interests of Plainview and its vicinity". The first officers and directors were Dr. E. E. Smith, C. D. Burchard, S. S. Lyons, A. S. Kennedy, J. A. Cook, M. Schneider and G. H. Dickman.

Throughout the years the Commercial Club has constantly undertaken many civic projects, being credited with the successful organization of the annual Lakeside Day, the annual High School Activity Award Banquet, and presently the Plainview Centennial celebration.

JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Junior Chamber of Commerce, affiliated with the national organization, was started by 35 charter members in 1939. It was active only a few years, primarily because most of the membership entered the service in World War II.

In its short but active life, many projects were successfully launched, including the fund raising and installation of the first athletic field lighting system, the early Fall festivals, the Christmas lighting contests, Rural Play Day, the traffic safety program and community picnic.

*Deceased.

GREENWOOD PRAIRIE OLD SETTLERS

There is record of an Old Settlers group here in the 1860's, and Mr. Rollins made a diary entry on February 28, 1871: "Went to Plainview to Old Settlers meeting, it was a fizzle, went to tavern and had some oysters". But it hasn't been a fizzle for the past 80 years. The annual February potluck get-together is a highlight of the year for old and young alike. Each year the group has a well-balanced program with a distinguished guest speaker and has done much to preserve our history and immortalize the spirit of our pioneers.

The present association got its start in 1877 when some 160 pioneers met to organize the Old Settlers Union of S. E. Wabasha County, their constitution requiring residence here prior to 1858. They voted to hold their annual meetings the afternoon and evening of the Wednesday in February "nearest the full moon" so all might find it easier to drive home. Dr. Tefft, George Farrar, Thomas Thompson and Ezra Eddy were first officers.

In 1899, in order to perpetuate the association, membership rules were modified to allow into membership all persons having lived in the area 40 years previous.

Serving this spirited group as prexy over the years have been Frank Washburn, Judson Wentworth and Kenneth Baldwin (still at the helm). Will Hassig served as treasurer from 1932 until his death this year.

—"For friends can make salt sweet and blackness bright".

THE TRAVELERS CLUB

The Travelers Club was organized in 1902 and was federated from 1905 to 1925. Mrs. E. W. Schwanbeck served as both a county and state officer for many years. The charter members of the Travelers Club were the Misses Electa Sylvester, Kate Schaughnessy, Elizabeth Koenig, Mary Bolton, Lottie Damoude, Mary Lahey, Amy French and Mmes H. Austin, A. E. Askew, C. D. Burchard, E. J. French, E. L. and F. Sylvester, F. G. Shumway, J. A. Slocumb, F. Washburn, J. A. LaCraft, R. Johnson, L. Meachum, E. A. French and Bessie Woodcock.

In earlier years, the Chautauqua course of study was followed with members giving reports on travel, music, art and literature. More recently programs have included travel talks and films by world-traveled guests.

The Travelers Club has always been most active in civic work, helping to sponsor our library, annual flower shows and recreational activities. The present membership of 33 has taken for its 1956 project the compilation of the Plainview Centennial history.



GREENWOOD PRAIRIE OLD SETTLERS AT 1916 REUNION

We can name most of the faces. From left to right, working up and down: Gus Staudacher, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Foster, Mrs. Geo. Stoddard, Chas. Putnam, Mrs. Myron Smith, Mrs. A. Miller, Mrs. Henry Wedge, Mrs. E. L. McGee, Mrs. Swanson, Mrs. J. I. Vermilya, Mrs. Lydia Smith, Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Elmer Wentworth, Mrs. Will Boehlke, Mrs. A. J. McRay, Mrs. M. M. Dickman, A. F. Hanneman, Geo. Stoddard, Mrs. Addie Christenson, Mrs. Anna Reich, Mrs. Frank Wood, Mrs. John Eggers, Mrs. Philip Welti, H. C. Anderson, Frank Washburn, Mrs. Wm. VanHorn, Mrs.

Florries, Mrs. Rob Smith, T. G. Bolton, Jack Hoffman, Mrs. Lena Underwood, Jim Butts, John Plein, Mr. and Mrs. Orren Wood, Mrs. Dan McFarlin, Mrs. O. W. Wright, Mrs. A. C. Woodcock, Mrs. Young, John Bates, Ed Wempner, John Horn, Philip Drew, G. Tock, Albert Miller, Andrew Helgerson, Doodad Chapman, Mrs. Frank Kruger, Mr. and Mrs. John Appel, Mrs. John Eggers, Mrs. Geo. Carpenter, Chas. Donaldson, Chas. Richardson, Geo. Carpenter, E. L. Sylvester, John Harr, Ed Richardson and Will Allen.

FEWER OLD SETTLERS — A FEW YEARS LATER



Among them: Judson Wentworth, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Wedge, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Washburn, Jessie Briggs, Charlie Swanson, John Simon, Mrs. Dwight Washburn, Elsie Erding, Mr. and Mrs. Clayt Holzer, Myrtle and Paul Durgin, Mrs. Asa Knowlton, Mrs. Frank Kruger, Mrs. E. L. Sylvester, Dwight Washburn, Alvin

Dickman, Mrs. Nerbovig, Mrs. Mark McFarlin, Adolph Stoltz, Mr. and Mrs. Charley Grieve, Asa Knowlton, Al Rother, John Keough, Frank Bennett, Hugh Nichols, Geo. Vermilya, Ralph Murray.



JAY SEYMOUR'S PRIDE AND JOY

Only Jay-the-Jet would attempt getting 26 boys scrubbed and brushed at one time. 1. Francis Peters, 2. Everett Anderson, 3. Ray Ryan, 4. Logan Thompson, 5. Wm. Woodward, 6. Everett Goetz, 7. Edgar Herman, 8. Wm. Schultz, 9. Franklin Washburn, 10. Glen Donaldson, 11. Leo Deming, 12. Alfred Deming, 13. Marble Wood, 14. Charles Christison, 15. Everett Armstrong, 16. Ralph Fenske, 17. Harold Woodward, 18. Jay Seymour, instructor, 19. Paul Schmidt, 20. Harlan Holzer, 21. Angus McMillan, 22. Arthur Schad, 23. Fred Mason, 24. Adolph Schwantz, 25. Burrell Amos, 26. Ardell Engel, 27. Elmer Schmidt.

PLAINVIEW 4-H CLUB

During the middle 1920's 4-H work was at a standstill throughout Wabasha County for lack of an extension office. A few enthusiastic boys and girls joined other clubs. Our first member of record was Omer Lamprecht who affiliated with the Haverhill club and showed his sleek Holsteins at the State Fair through Olmsted entry.

But in 1929 we went off to a flying start when our school employed Jay (the Jet) Seymour as agriculture instructor and gave him the green light on 4-H promotion.

In his first year Jay built up the Plainview Club to become Minnesota's largest single unit, and in his three-year tenure he produced nine state grand champions, leaving eight more well on their way to victory so that they increased the row of state purple ribbons to 17 before 1936.

C. D. Nelson took over in 1932 where Jay (the Jet) left off, resigning in 1935 to become Wabasha County's first county agent in the long dormant extension office. The county has "buzzed" with extension programs ever since, with a series of go-getters at the helm, including Herb Feldman from 1946 to 1952. Harriet (Hostettler) Lenz served as extension office secretary for many years, and has supplied much of the farm organization research in these pages. Matt Metz is our present agent. Miss Merle Stoughton (Mrs. Edgar Herman) was our first Home Demonstration agent, serving from 1948 to 1953. Miss Betty Shaffner now holds that post.

The list of Plainview's state grand champion or national 4-H awards is long and imposing, but the list of volunteer adult leaders who helped to build these future farmers and homemakers is even longer . . . Among them Mrs. Charles Kruger, Kenneth Baldwin, Mrs. August Manzow, Mrs. W. A. Martin, Mrs. Francis McNallan. Also Messrs. and Meses. Milton Schwantz, Herbert Sprenger, Arthur Olin, Lester Christison, Marble Wood, Carol Wurst, Will Christison, Milton Bany and Alfred Drenckhahn.

Our 4-H champions who gathered ribbons so fast we could hardly count them included:

1929: Award as Minnesota's largest single unit.

1929: William Woodward, who grew up with "a way with words" caught the first purple ribbon by winning the state dairy essay contest (his subject—our creamery) and won for himself a trip to the St. Louis National Dairy Exposition.

1929: Marble Wood, little taller than his entry, took his Poland China barrow "Sam" through to top place at the Junior Livestock Show, winning a trip to the International Livestock Show at Chicago and giving his Dad an excuse to "chaperone" him.

1930: Logan Thompson also won the state dairy essay contest (on butter handling) and went to St. Louis.

1931: Bill Schultz, junior ag student and 4-H'er, received the national award in Hoard's Dairyman judging contest, scoring 470 out of a possible 500 points, and competing with 40,800 entries.

1931: Everett Armstrong and **William Woodward** pre-

sented the grand champion dairy dehorning demonstration at State Fair (they brought down the house when they brought out the corn cobs), winning another St. Louis trip.

1932: Jeannette Lehnertz was named Minnesota's best groomed Junior at the June short course.

1932: Dorsey Posz won purple ribbon at State Fair on her exhibit of canned goods.

1932: Edgar Herman and **Everett Armstrong** took sweepstakes on their alfalfa demonstration at the State Fair.

1932: Franklin Washburn gave the grand champion swine feeding demonstration, winning a trip to the International Livestock show at Chicago.

1933: Olga Affeldt (Elgin) chosen as Minnesota's best groomed girl at the U short course in June.

1933: Dorsey Posz and **Jeannette Lehnertz** gave the grand champion canning demonstration at State Fair and were named to represent Minnesota in canning judging at National Club Congress at Chicago. (December).

1933: Jeannette and **Dorsey** welcomed home from Chicago where they won first in the national canning judging contest and appeared two days on the NBC National Farm & Home Hour.

1934: Every year Minnesota's best groomed junior, this time **Ellen Miller**. Monotonous, isn't it?

1934: Elaine Gallagher named state canning queen on her exhibit.

1934: Marble Wood named Minnesota 4-H achievement champion, to compete at National Congress for national title.

1935: Anna Rose Gallagher, after six years of dogged determination, won state judging championship in canning; was named state canning queen to represent Minnesota in national contest at Chicago congress. Anna Rose went on to become an extension agent and later a county agent's helpmate.

1936: Having groomed county champions when he was still too young to show at state level, **John Schad** finally won the honor of a trip to the National Dairy Show at Dallas, Texas, for his 7-year achievement record.

1943: Robert Holst, Jr. (Bud) led his Aberdeen-Angus "Mike" to top honors and \$2.00 a lb. on auction block at Junior Livestock Show.

1944: Louis Cook won grand champion safety award.

1955: Dallyce Schwantz took top honors at State Fair in food preparation (record included 312 meals with 2,088 special dishes) and was chosen as Minnesota delegate to National Club Congress on over-all achievement record.

PLAINVIEW FARM BUREAU

The Plainview Farm Bureau, with a membership today of 55 strong, was revived and reorganized in 1934 with 15 charter members: Cyril Grieve, Charles Carlton*, Will Hassig*, Kenneth Steffen, Otto Clausen, Byron Wood, Adolph Kreiger, Will Christison, Jim Christison*, Frank Wood, Conrad Herman, Marcus Melendy*, George Lamprecht*, Kenneth Baldwin and Will Wischow . . . its purpose and pledge to do for the good of agriculture those things that cannot be accomplished by individual farmers.

These energetic and public-spirited farmers set out from the first helping to establish other units as well as taking an influential part in civic and legislative work. Cyril Grieve, besides heading the local unit, also led the Wabasha County Farm Bureau from 1934 to 1950, serving on the state crop committee 3 years. Lester Christison has been Wabasha County president since 1953.

For many years the Farm Bureau held a county-wide picnic jointly with the 4-H Clubs at the county fair grounds, drawing some 1,500 people.

The Farm Bureau was instrumental the first year (1935) in reactivating extension work in Wabasha County which had been without an agent since 1923. Besides C. D. Nelson as agent, Marble Wood was also employed for a few months as an ERA worker to organize 4-H units and Dorsey Posz served two years as club agent.

GRANGE NO. 41

The local Grange No. 41 was organized in 1870 at the French schoolhouse and became a great influence in the community for the ensuing 40 years not only in the advancement of agriculture but also civic affairs. The Grange opposed the principle of bonding the town for the railroad in 1878, and was instrumental through persistent effort in the bonding later being defeated in the high courts.

Our first Grange organizer was Thomas A. Thompson an 1856 pioneer, who resigned his position as Wabasha County Superintendent of Schools to devote his time, without salary, to the furtherance of the Grange movement, gaining fame as a national lecturer.

PLAINVIEW FARMERS UNION

Local 616 was newly organized in 1955 with 36 families as charter members and already has a roster of more than 100, with Logan Petit, Francis Heaser, Patrick Welti and Logan Thompson as first officers; Mrs. Leo Erpelding, Wayne Doane, Ambrose Simon, Roy Mussell, Eugene Schneider and Charles Rheingans as directors and Leo Deming and Gladys Petit serving as county chairmen.

The Union's primary aim is to guide legislation toward better prices and farming conditions. In January, 1956, Logan Petit was one of a large delegation (38 busloads) dispatched to Washington to lobby for the farmer.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

Five pioneers met in 1869 to organize the I.O.O.F. Lodge No. 16 in Plainview: W. A. Allen, John Clark, W. L. Cleveland, John Simpson and David VanWort. The present roster includes 80 active members.

Organized as a fraternal and benefit association, the group contributes to the Odd Fellows' Home at Northfield and for care of widows and orphans of deceased members.

Several of our local members also belong to the Rochester encampment.

REBEKAH LODGE

The Rebekah Lodge No. 166 was chartered in 1897 with 16 charter members: K. C. Clark, Mrs. L. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Dan McFarlin, A. E. McCue, W. McCue, A. E. Nelson, Dr. F. H. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Ritter, A. P. Stafford, Mrs. A. M. Weichel, Mrs. Julia Sargent, Misses Anna Kimberly, Lottie Damoude and Emma Koenig. Mrs. Anna (Kimberly) Lehnertz and Mrs. Lottie (Damoude) Conway are the only charter members still living.

For the present membership of 66, the Lodge works to stimulate interest in Rebekah Oddfellowship and to aid in the maintenance of the I.O.O.F. Home as well as other projects of the parent lodge. Mrs. Clarence Kruger served as organist for the state assembly in 1941.

MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA

This charter was granted in 1903, and was abandoned several years ago, local members affiliating with the Winona lodge. The 19 charter members were: Wm. C. Allen, Wm. G. Mack, A. J. Fricke, A. Engelhardt, Ira Finch, W. French, P. J. Freisheim, A. W. Gregg, W. T. Lea, A. French, T. A. Lindsey, C. O. White, Frank Wood, M. J. Manchester, W. W. Pogson, F. F. Smith, Frank Washburn, A. R. Talbot and C. M. Hawes, all of whom are now deceased. Wilford and Clayton Edwards joined in Wisconsin, transferring to this lodge when it was chartered.

ROYAL NEIGHBORS OF AMERICA

Camp No. 2711 was formed in 1901 with 21 charter members: Mmes. Minnie Allen*, Cora Bremmer*, Alice French*, G. W. French*, Jennie Lyons*, Hattie Lyons*, Josephine Melendy, Gertrude Melendy, M. D. Melendy*, Lizzie Nettekoven*, Mary Murray, Minnie O'Connell*, Edwin J. French*, Wealthy Hallenbeck*, Inez Hallenbeck* and Louis Sundquist*.

The Plainview Camp has 40 members at present, carrying \$30,000 of insurance policies.

*Deceased.

MASONIC LODGE

In 1867 Illustrious Lodge No. 63, A.F. & A.M. received its charter. The first officers were F. W. Wells (WM), H. A. Wells (SW), F. Lynch (JW), A. Smith (Treas.), G. Wright (Secy), E. C. Geary (SD), J. B. Pope (JD) and G. W. Harrington (Tyler).

The Lodge with a present membership of 105, supports the Masonic Home for the Aged as well as other Masonic projects. Currently the group is engaged in raising funds for the Masonic Memorial Hospital to be located on the campus of the U. of M. The hospital, open to all people, will be devoted to cancer research and the care of patients in the final stages of this malady.

Two members have been honored as Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, the late Dr. E. E. Smith in 1919 and Earl Harrington in 1947. Members belonging to the Scottish Rite Bodies are: Thomas Askew, Arthur Becker, John Boehlke, Alfred Burkhardt, Miles Cagley, Charles Christison, Lester Christison, O. C. Denzer, Charles Donaldson, George Douglass, Alfred Drenckhahn, Donald Duerre, Charles Fisk, Fred Gerber, Dr. R. A. Glabe*, Philip Green, Don Harrington, Earl Harrington*, Ray Hawk, Vince King, Clarence Kruger, Frank Kruger, Harold Lamp, C. L. Mikkelsen, Wright Miller*, Darrel Moore, Franz Peters, B. J. Rohde, Alvin Rottke, Roscoe Schwanbeck*, Ralph Seeman, Harry Smith*, Vern Smith, Logan Thompson, Steve Thompson, George Vermilya, Dr. W. H. Whitcomb and Warren Woodcock*. Theodore DeBoer* and Albert Rother* are members of the York Rite Bodies.

*Also Shriners.

EASTERN STAR

The Plainview Chapter No. 184 of the Order of the Eastern Star was presented its charter in 1906 with 28 charter members, eight of whom are still living: Myrtle Bush, Mable Ross Hepner, Mary C. Carley, Vera (Burchard) Knapp, Maude Cornwell, and Bessie, Harry and Mary Smith. The present membership is 126.

Besides charitable work on a local level, the Eastern Star helps to support the Masonic Home, the Educational fund and care for the aged and children.

PLAINVIEW FIELD AND STREAM

When after ten years of pioneer effort the local Izaak Walton League was disbanded in 1936, a group of 41 ardent sportsmen formed the Field and Stream unit, with Art Wempner*, Ed Boehlke*, Rueben Kruger, H. D. Downing, Laird Reiter, John Mikkelsen and Vern Wentworth as first directors.

In earlier years this group held annual field trials at Crystal Spring and had a duck club near Weaver slough. They have helped to introduce pheasants and Hungarian partridge in the area by raising and releasing them. They also help to stock the local trout streams.

GREENWOOD PRAIRIE FARMERS CLUB

An active group of area farmers organized this civic and social club in 1914 at the Greenwood School with C. R. Grieve*, J. T. Wentworth*, J. A. Appel and E. E. Melendy as first officers.

In 1922 the club had grown to such proportions and strength that it purchased the first St. Joachim's church building which was moved and converted into a clubhouse on the M. D. Melendy farm, equipping it for parties, public dances, home talent plays and basketball.

Thirty years later, in 1953, the club disbanded, selling the clubhouse for \$800, which was given to Plainview township for road improvement.

*Deceased.

SIX OAKS AND PLEASANT VALLEY FARMERS CLUB

With their goal toward better farming methods, this club was formed in 1914 with Merritt Horn*, Joe Richardson*, Lee Salisbury, George Thompson*, and Earl Evans* as first officers and directors.

Their meetings were held every two weeks, alternating between the Six Oaks and Pleasant Valley schoolhouses until they outgrew this arrangement and set out to build themselves a large community hall on the Earl Evans farm. This was a lively place for many years, with numerous programs, entertainments and social functions with Mr. and Mrs. Peter Petit as entertainment chairmen.

The hall still stands, although it has not been in use for several years.



A lot of red and white corn, paste and patience on the part of the Greenwood Prairie Farmers Club went into the building of this booth to take the sweepstakes at the Wabasha County Fair in 1920.



Dr. J. P. Waste, Postmaster, in 1900

Until the early 1900's, postmasters purchased their own equipment and furnishings. Miss Hattie Carroll was Plainview postmistress from 1872 to 1889 while the postoffice was still located in the Lawton Grocery (present Carley building). She was succeeded by her brother, Arthur, for one year, followed by Frank Meachum for three years. When Franklin Welles was appointed in 1893 he moved his postoffice to the T. G. Bolton Drug Store (now Bates Variety).

Dr. J. P. Waste took over in 1898, moving the equipment to its present location in the bank building erected by J. H. Davis in 1886. Rural mail delivery was instituted during Dr. Waste's tenure. George Hall was appointed upon Dr. Waste's death in 1906, and was followed by Harry Smith from 1913 to 1922. In 1916 the present arrangement was effected, with 312 patrons' boxes installed on the west wall and the writing desks on the east wall.

W. G. Mack was our next postmaster, succeeded by Chester Gallagher who served until his death in 1941. At this time Mike Leonard, our present postmaster, was appointed.

Plainview Public Library

One might wonder how Plainview has had time for reading, with every citizen belonging and actively supporting an average of five civic organizations.

However, since a January night in 1865 when a group of intellectually-minded townspeople met at the home of Alonzo Foster to form our first library association, we have supported a library (and for many years two) of a scope cities many times our size might boast.

At this first meeting Dr. N. S. Tefft was named president of the Plainview Library Association, and plans were laid to raise money to provide reading material as well as a reading room. This literary group met at various homes until through concerts and home talent shows they had raised the funds to provide a reading room in Wilcox Hall in 1879. This group continued in both literary and musical advancement until after the turn of the century, with the support of Dr. Taber, Mrs. W. A. Gregg and many others.

In 1905 a municipal library association was formed with Dr. E. E. Smith as president, and in 1906 the old Plainview Library Association turned over all properties to the new municipal library. The library was then located in the Koenig block, and the Misses Netta and Etta Gorrell acted as librarians in addition to their duties as switchboard operators for the telephone company. Later that year the state librarian visited our library, praising the work of our librarians highly.



*More and Better Reading in 1956
(Miss Grace Wright, Librarian, at right)*

When the City Hall was built in 1910 permanent space was provided there for the library. Starting in 1905 with 61 books and a list for the year of 161 borrowers, our library, through civic pride and the support of many organizations, has grown today into a pleasant, restful room with a reading list of some 6,500 books and 27 periodicals, loaned in 1955 to 3,956 adult and 2,596 juvenile borrowers.

Dr. Smith served on the board for over 30 years, as did Miss Mary Lahey, Miss Grace Wright and Miss Amy French. Mrs. Mary Belsheim acted as librarian over 25 years, with Miss Wright serving since 1947.

News and Views of the Century

The year was 1856. Not just the hamlet of Centerville but the whole Minnesota Territory was still in swaddling clothes. Even our county boundaries were less than a year old. Or didn't you know that Wabasha County once included most of southern Minnesota? Or that Olmsted was one of the last counties created—out of the "surplus" of Fillmore, Goodhue and Wabasha? Plainview and Elgin rightfully belonged in Olmsted, but the Wabasha influence was too strong in the territorial legislature and they fought to hold these two townships to balance the budget. . . . Yes, 1856 was a busy year nationwide. The Republican Party was formed, the Sioux had just been defeated by Gen. Harney, and the new Rock Island RR extending only from Chicago to the Mississippi was working at peak capacity to carry the hoards of Easterners who had caught the "Western Fever". . . . **Centerville** became a wide spot on the little wagon trail, sporting four businesses and less than a dozen families—the Wilcox general store, Blackwell's hotel, David vonWort's carpenter shop and the Rittenhouse blacksmith shop.

1857 There was a widespread financial panic, but little Centerville was so far inland she didn't know it. Settlers in the township increased to 430 by early summer, with almost 100 people in the little hamlet. So a village was ambitiously platted, through the foresight of our forefathers, with wide streets soon lined with elm, cottonwood and oak saplings. . . . Pioneers traveled many miles—miles were longer then—to wait in line at Dr. Gibb's office, and to make Ozias Wilcox's store the busiest crossroads trading post in the area. . . . Ezra Eddy gave up Greenville to buy and run Blackwell's hotel.

1858 An exciting year—Minnesota gained her statehood, and every township was ambitious to "organize". . . . Centerville made second application for a post office, which was granted with the proviso that the name be changed. Without ado, our pioneers looked toward the distant horizon and agreed on "Plainview". . . . So Plainview township held its first "town" election May 11, 1858, with 78 ballots cast. . . . The first official road was laid out running east and west of Plainview's Broadway, and it was agreed that all new roads should follow section lines where possible. . . . The Rochester Free Press published a new mail schedule, with mail arriving once a week from both north and south, and the route from Rochester going through High Forest, Rock Dell, Elgin, Plainview and Greenville to Wabasha. . . . Plainview opened "school" in vonWort's carpenter shop with Judge Hale as master.

1859 The potato bug made its first appearance—don't laugh, it became a near catastrophe. . . . The Wabasha County Herald reported many interesting items. Headlines cried for a ferry at Wabasha. . . .

Benjamin Lawrence was appointed Greenville postmaster to replace A. T. Sharp who was returning East. . . . R. N. White of Greenville was listed as one of the best professional engravers in the country. . . . In March Rodman Burchard of Greenville purchased the F. S. Richards store at Read's Landing and hired Richards as his agent at Reads. (*Burchard opened the Greenville store in 1856 as agent for Richards*). . . . The Wabasha County Agricultural Society was formed, with T. A. Thompson and A. P. Foster officers. . . . A. B. W. ("Squire") Norton built a pretentious general store in Plainview (*where Plainview Hardware now stands*).

1860 Lincoln became president, with South Carolina seceding from the Union. . . . The State legislature passed an act abolishing the "supervisor" system of county government and dividing counties into "commissioner" districts. Wabasha County was split into five commissioner districts—with Minneiska, Watopa, Highland and Plainview in 1st district; Elgin, Pell, Zumbro, West Albany and Glasgow in 2nd; Mazeppa, Chester, Gillford and Mt. Pleasant in 3rd; Pepin, Wabasha and Greenfield in 4th; and Lake City in 5th.

1861 Samuel McLaughlin, pioneer implement man, came to Plainview. Also Julius Fricke who established our first harness shop. Dr. N. S. Tefft moved his medical practice here from Minneiska. . . . President Lincoln's first call went out for 117,000 three-year volunteers.

1862 The president called for 300,000 more volunteers, but the Indian Massacre took first importance in the Minnesota Triangle. Wagonloads of men fell into line on the road to Winona to enlist. Mustered in at Ft. Snelling, no uniforms were provided. Each man received a blanket, a flannel shirt, a pair of heavy socks and a prayer. Springfield rifles were rated the best arms, but most carried old Mississippi rifles with sword bayonets. Many who thought they had volunteered for Civil War duty found themselves on their way to the Indian uprisings. By the end of the year there was practically not an able-bodied man left in the county. . . . The first actual rail construction began in Minnesota. . . . In Plainview the Weigel & Fedder meat market opened.

1863 The Emancipation Proclamation went into effect. . . . Ezra Eddy sold the Plainview Hotel to Wm. Stone. . . . A "Select School" was opened in the Wilcox Building by Miss Lizzie Hawley, offering Higher English for \$3.00 a quarter and French for \$2.00. . . .

1864 500,000 more men were drafted (*see Rollins diary*). . . . Stevens Brothers of Wabasha established our first newspaper, the Plainview Enterprise, a short-lived campaign sheet. . . . Squire Norton was appointed postmaster. . . . On December 21 Sherman completed his "March to the Sea".

1865 On April 9 Lee surrendered at Appomattox, and on April 14 President Lincoln was assassinated. . . . John Reifkogel opened a harness shop in Plainview (*which shortly grew into the largest shop in the area and employed seven men*). . . . Dr. J. P. Waste, former Army surgeon from Ohio, came here to practice. . . . Plainview Drug Co., a branch of Crowley Drug at Wabasha, opened with T. G. Bolton as manager. . . . E. B. Eddy went south to return the bodies of Austin Carroll and Charles Dawley, Jr., who died in battle. He also brought back an old friend, C. C. Cornwell, and together they opened our first hardware. . . . An unofficial business directory included John Yale, conveyancer; J. D. Jaquith, attorney; L. M. Gregg Oyster Saloon; James Rowe, boots, shoes and buffalo overshoes; Henry Horton, wagonmaking; and Sam Purvis, A. Pomeroy and Hardy & Sons, blacksmiths.

1866 F. J. Cornwell opened a branch store of Taylor & Co., St. Charles. . . . The Methodist Episcopal Society erected Plainview's first church, a small chapel on Jefferson. . . . Rodman Burchard, last of the Greenville stalwarts, moved to Plainview.



Early M.E. Church

Chapel at rear erected in 1866, new front added 1893

1867 Ezra Eddy started our first banking house in the Eddy & Cornwell Hardware. . . . William Lawton opened another grocery. . . . Frederick Wahler, prosperous farmer who came from Winona County in 1863, built a spacious village residence. . . . A. Y. Felton purchased the Bolton Drug. . . . D. D. Brown, jeweler, purchased the Plainview Hotel. . . . Charles O. Landon sold his farm, opened a real estate and loan office.

1868 Joseph R. Watkins, son of Rev. and Mrs. B. U. Watkins, received the right to manufacture and sell Dr. Ward's compounds. He commenced the mixing and bottling of Dr. Ward's remedies in the kitchen and woodshed of the Watkins home on Broadway. . . . E. B. Eddy sold his hardware interest to Dodge so he could devote full time to the banking business. . . . Kellom & Co. opened a millinery.

1869 John Bigham purchased the Plainview Hotel. . . . C. T. Allaire built a flour and grist mill on East Broadway. . . . Valentine Cook made city headlines by raising 1324 bushel of wheat on 40 acres,

averaging better than 32 bushel per acre. . . . W. W. Freer started a one-horse dray. . . . William Feller was appointed Receiver of Public Monies in the Government Land Office in Duluth. . . . The Wabasha County Medical Society was organized.

1870 The Wabasha County Fair Association elected J. McHench, John Head, S. L. McCarty and John Harlan directors, and voted to hold the fair at Lake City. . . . Wabasha County spent \$16,804 on teachers' salaries. . . . Deetz's Steam Ferry was running at Wabasha. . . . B. J. Leininger bought the Plainview Jewelry from D. D. Brown. . . . Henry Ash's Stage Lines with livery at Plainview and Wabasha advertised tri-weekly service from Eau Claire to Rochester. . . . Business boomed. . . . The 1870 Plainview Business Directory listed:

Agricultural implements: J. R. McLaughlin, T. F. Lynch.

Attorneys: Sargent & Perkins, H. P. Wilson.

Bankers: E. B. Eddy.

Barbers: A. Lovering.

Billiards, Fancy Groceries: J. Simpson, Stout & Davey.

Blacksmiths: Samuel Purvis, Sweezey & Hardy, A. Pomeroy.

Boots & Shoes: J. Taylor & Co., O. Wilcox, W. Koenig, A. Thompson.

Clothing: J. Taylor & Co., O. Wilcox, A. B. W. Norton Co.

Dentists: D. H. Roberts.

Drugs & Medicines: A. Y. Felton, O. Wilcox, G. Whitney.

Dry Goods: J. Taylor & Co., O. Wilcox, W. F. Robinson.

Eating Houses: G. F. Gregg Oyster Saloon.

Engraver of Wood: R. N. White.

Furniture: Luger Bros., D. Ackley, Agent.

Flouring Mills: Allaire & Burchard.

Groceries: W. Lawton, J. Taylor & Co., O. Wilcox, A. B. W.

Norton, G. F. Gregg, W. F. Robinson.

Hardware: Cornwell & Dodge.

Harness Shops: J. Fricke, J. W. Reifkogel.

Hotels: Plainview Hotel, J. Bigham; Greenwood House, H. H.

Butts; D. N. Mason Boarding House.

Insurance: J. R. McLaughlin.

Jewelers: B. F. Leininger.

Liniment Mfr.: J. R. Watkins.

Livery Stables: J. D. Robbins, Henry Ash.

Lumber: Sargent & Perkins.

Meat Markets: Wm. Weigel.

Millinery: Mrs. D. C. Morton, Kellom & Merrill.

Painters: George Stratton, S. Adams.

Photograph Galleries: Miss Addie Gale.

Physicians: N. S. Tefft, J. P. Waste, W. A. Allen.

Real Estate: C. O. Landon, H. P. Wilson.

Stock Dealers: Weigel & Green.

Variety & Book Store: A. Y. Felton.

Wagon Shops: Horton & Cornwell, D. R. Sweezey.

1871 Congregational Chapel erected on Broadway. . . . Plainview's first independent school board elected. . . . 17,450 buildings destroyed in Chicago fire. . . . George Richmond sold Norman horses on Eastern market.

1872 Minnesota Legislature passed an act officially changing the name of Centerville to Plainview and declaring conveyances of real estate heretofore made legal. . . . Plainview Circus well attended. . . . November, horse epidemic (epizooty), stages not running, few horses seen on streets.

1873 Potatoes 30c, pork 3c, beef 4 1/2c. . . . Wheat crop good, \$1.25 bushel, many buying threshing machines. . . . County fair held at Wabasha.



Congregational Church—Built in 1871

(Photo taken about 1890)

1874 C. O. Landon and C. D. Burchard purchased the Felton drug and grocery. . . . Russell Carpenter went into the farm implement business. . . . Grasshopper raid in Northwest became menace, grasshopper benefit suppers held. . . . John F. Pope, former mason and blacksmith at Beaver, admitted to bar and came to Plainview to practice. . . . Plainview News established by T. G. Bolton, printed in Wabasha monthly, mainly advertising drug items.

1875 Plainview became an incorporated village, with E. B. Eddy, Chas. Weld, Dr. Waste, Wm. Lawton, C. C. Cornwell and R. Burchard first council. . . . Ozias Wilcox, Plainview's first storekeeper, died of brain fever.

1876 F. J. Cornwell, who had sold his interest in Taylor & Co. to Taylor in 1872 and worked for Wilcox as bookkeeper, bought the Wilcox store, removing to the spacious brick building built by Felton. . . . John Schadt built the first windmill in Highland. . . . Dr. Tefft patented the first automatic grain binder. . . . Plans for a narrow-gauge railroad from Minneiska to Plainview fell through. . . . Plainview Band played at Elgin 4th of July celebration. . . . Mrs. Wilcox had auction, left to make home in Minneapolis. . . . Brooks Brothers Lumber (across from Methodist chapel) became grain buyers.

1877 Plainview Hotel burned. John Bigham, owner since 1869, rebuilt at once. . . . County teacher's



The Ezra B. Eddy Residence in 1873

Purchased by Milton Smith in 1879 from Eddy when he moved to Fargo, it later became the John Joachim home where many of you enjoyed the skating rink. (Northeast Plainview)

institute held at Plainview. . . . Julius Fricke erected a handsome brick residence on his 80-acre village farm near Dr. Tefft's. . . . F. A. Wilson purchased Plainview News from T. G. Bolton, made it a weekly published at Plainview. . . . T. J. Wadleigh returned from Rochester and opened a furniture store (NW corner Jefferson and Broadway). . . .

1878 Chicago & Northwestern RR completed branch line to Plainview, joining the Winona-St. Peter road near Eyota. . . . Plainview abandoned municipal organization to strengthen township vote on bonds required for completion of the railroad. . . . Stages still ran to Wabasha and Minneiska daily, St. Charles tri-weekly. . . . Whiting & Woodruff built Plainview's first large grain elevator for \$8,500 (present Dill building). . . . Ezra Eddy sold his bank to Amerland & LaRue. . . . H. D. Byron purchased the Plainview News. . . . Ezra Feller built the Plainview Livery. . . . The telephone and phonograph were developed.

Editor's Note: From this date forward, all items are taken from the Plainview News, Record and other local publications. Insofar as space would allow, we have attempted to preserve the 'editorial flavor' of our early publishers by direct quotation.

1879 Ezra Feller purchases Plainview Hotel. . . . C. D. Burchard of the popular house of Landon & Burchard has concluded to visit "Glorious Chicago", but not being as reckless as some of our businessmen is taking his wife along. . . . Over 500 from Plainview, Elgin, Viola and Chatfield board train for the Rochester excursion.

1880 The census listed Dr. Tefft's zoo with two deer, one owl, two shetland ponies, one baby elephant, two moose, two American Eagles and a dog, 2"x3 1/4".

1881 A. Y. Felton, merchant and owner of the Plainview-Minneiska Telegraph Co., builds new enterprise. Creamery about completed on his 4-acre tract on West Broadway, will employ four teams and two inside hands. . . . C. M. Allen Jewelry sold to Smith Bros. . . . G. Saxton buys Henry Hinz Shoe Shop. . . . George Hall, area farmer, moves to town to be lumber agent. . . . Sitting Bull, Chief of Sioux, surrenders. . . . William Taylor starts Plainview's first home milk delivery service. . . . Town orders, no more horse-racing on Broadway. . . . Hon. T. A. Thompson puts wire fence around his grove which now answers for a public park for Plainview.

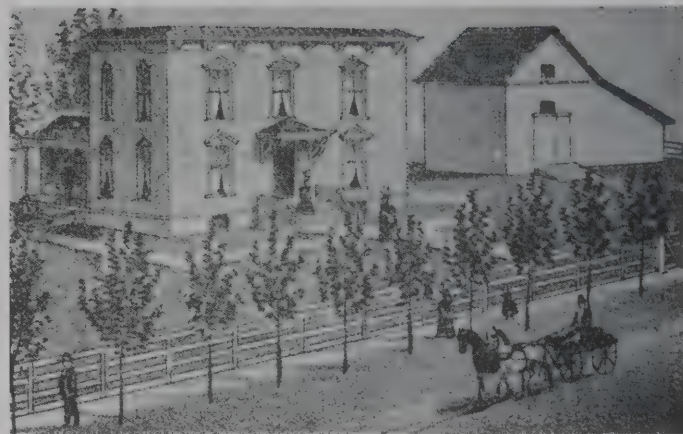


Plainview's First Depot

Supposedly the original Rodman Burchard residence remodeled

1882 Dr. M. E. Taber graduates in dentistry, will practice here. Has studied ten years while working as a hotel clerk and barber. Quite a marksman, he has won the medal for five counties two years running. He and a friend gleaned 74 fat chickens in an afternoon shoot. Dr. Taber, an accomplished musician, has led the Plainview Band and directed the Methodist Choir several years. . . . Ed Paradis purchases full interest in Plainview News from partner, H. D. Byron. . . . Plainview has one eyesore in the shape of an old dilapidated windmill. If the dead duck who owns the property cannot devise some means of disposing of it soon, we think the citizens would be warranted in pulling down the old wreck. . . . Felton Creamery paying 25c an inch for cream, will be paying our farmers about \$500 a day shortly. . . . This is to certify that R. W. Carpenter started one of Deering's Twin Binders in a heavy piece of green rye and it worked to our satisfaction. A. & T. Garrison. (Adv). . . . Peter Lamprecht must be doubly happy. Twins. They resemble each other very much, but you can tell them apart. The girl weighs seven pounds and the boy eight pounds. . . . Feller & Waterman had to send three teams to the river last Saturday to accommodate the Court crowd from Greenwood Prairie. . . . H. D. Wedge, who erected a handsome brick house a few years ago, now owns over 700 acres of land.

1883 Meachum & Damoude have taken over the farm implement business where McLaughlin & Lynch were. . . . Henry K. Oliverson, who came with his parents from Norway ten years ago, is entering the grocery business. . . . Two cent letter postage goes into effect throughout U. S. . . . Cyclone strikes Elgin at high noon July 21, entire business area leveled, special trains take volunteers into stricken area. Mrs. Thayer crushed to death over counter of her millinery store, Edith Dillon, William Bowen and Townsend child only others seriously injured. Damage extends straight east to Whitewater Valley. Edgar Rollins, telegrapher, conveyed news by connecting wires mile south of town. Old Plainview grist mill, owned by Indiana man, only casualty here. . . . August 21: Terrific tornado strikes Rochester area, 31 killed, 50 seriously wounded



Dr. Tefft's Home on East Broadway in 1873

(The present Murray residence)

in Olmsted County. Loss over \$100,000 in Rochester alone. Wagons found lodged in trees, 2½" board driven through a poplar tree, book belonging to Kasson man picked up east of Elgin. . . . Sept. 13: C. O. Landon has been taking down the old windmill. This will save people the trouble of explaining to every stranger that it was not broken by the cyclone.

1884 Township in dilemma since RR bonding pronounced unconstitutional. Have ceased paying interest on bonds. Isley & Marshall, Milwaukee bonding company, bringing suit. . . . Dr. M. E. Taber has purchased the J. R. Watkins residence on West Broadway. Mr. Watkins will move to Winona where he will continue making patent medicines. . . . Lon Buck, daily stage driver between here and Wabasha, has yet to miss a single trip this winter (Feb. 14). . . . From the state directory: "Plainview has 40 places of business, with a moderate but wholesome growth. The people in the area are unusually cultured and sociable, industrious and prosperous." . . . To Plainview and the Plainview School belongs the honor of having turned out the first lady teacher in the county qualified to teach in "first grade" schools, Miss Amy R. French, daughter of George French. . . . Felton Creamery awarded England's silver cup for best creamery butter at State Fair.



Plainview's First Cornet Band—1880

(Picture taken on East Broadway, Allaire Mill on present Reiter site). Most of the "tooters" were numbered and named: 1. Mark Williams, 2. Prof. Beach, 3. C. Maxwell, 4. Dr. M. Taber, 5. R. Cornwell, 6. Wm. Lawton, 7. A. Cornwell, 8. unidentified, 9. Lon Pomeroy, 11. Del Pomeroy.



Main Street in 1885

Elizabeth LaRocque (Mrs. W. G. Edwards) in foreground

1885 A squad of soldiers accompanied the Plainview Cornet Band to Elgin on Decoration Day to decorate graves, returning on the noon train. . . . Theo. Saxe of Caledonia has purchased the A. D. Wyant Photo Gallery. . . . C. O. Landon has built a new burglar and fireproof vault in his drug store with boxes and pigeonholes for rent to people who want to store their valuables. . . . The Plainview News is now printing copies in German for those who can't read the regular copies. Have also completed the lists of people getting their mail from the Plainview post office as well as Beaver, Elba, Little Valley, Fairwater, Six Oaks, Elgin, Viola, Potsdam, Bremen, Millville, Keegan, Theilmanton, Cooks Valley, Smithfield, Kellogg and Weaver. Copies may be had at the News office. *What service!* . . . Plainview Roller Rink is now operated by George Landon and Ed Paradis. Admission for spectators 10c, lady skaters 15c, gents 25c. *Now that seems fair enough.* . . . J. H. Davis, Jr., who has secured control of the old Eddy banking house, will build a new brick building on the northwest corner of Broadway and Washington to house his bank and Leininger Jewelry.

1886 Special meeting held at town clerk's office to consider advisability of again incorporating the village. Opposition said such incorporation would throw entire RR bond debt on township and threatened to take matter to courts if attempt to incorporate was made. . . . Many from here are attending Darling's Business College at Rochester. . . . Judge Wording, Plainview banker from 1880 to 1885, drops dead from apoplexy. . . . The Lecture Course this winter is the best we have ever had. Our businessmen have paid \$400 for the course of six lectures to be held at the Congo Church, reserved seats now available. . . . J. I. Vermilya, Dover, Auctioneer. (Adv). . . . Mrs. S. E. Seymour has just purchased Mrs. F. L. Meachum's entire millinery establishment. . . . E. H. Marshall, our Plainview barber, has received notice that all barber shops in the state must close on Sundays. . . . Several Elgin and Plainview men went to St. Paul regarding the RR bond suit now before the Supreme Court. Frank B. Kellogg represented the towns of Elgin and Plainview.

1887 Ed Paradis and J. H. O'Connell to head special committee to consider the question of a town well. . . . Now, a gasoline engine which uses gas direct from the tank and absolutely safe too, manu-

factured by Dickerman Bros. Novelty Works. (Adv). . . . Wolves have become so numerous in this locality that M. P. Costello has purchased a small cannon, openly declaring war against these midnight pests. It is rumored that he has succeeded in making 13 of these vicious creatures repent of their boldness. Of course some citizens are complaining their fine dogs are missing. . . . R. W. Carpenter and T. G. Bolton have purchased a horse-powered brick moulding and pressing machine and have commenced to fit up the brickyard which they expect to have in operation next week. If our clay is of the superior quality brick experts say it is, Plainview should soon be one of the leading brickmaking towns in the West. *Ed Note: Did we run out of clay?* . . . Nick, son of John Steffes of Highland, was bitten by a rattlesnake east of Slayton's blacksmith shop Saturday and died Sunday morning. . . . J. H. Hitchcock and John Gage have shipped 1,200 bunches of celery to Minneapolis and Mr. Gage over 75 barrels of cauliflower pickles which he is putting on the market. . . . Don't forget the meeting tomorrow night to organize a Farmers' Alliance. . . . Mr. and Mrs. George C. Dickman celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at the Herman Rohweder home. *Ed. Note: Hereditary, no doubt.* . . . Dr. S. G. Cobb and Frank L. Meachum purchase Plainview News from Paradis, publisher for ten years.



St. Joachim's Catholic Church—1887

1888 Blizzard and cold strike Northwest, over 200 lives lost. Thermometers 30 to 60 below, no mail for over a week, rotary snowplow unable to clear tracks. . . . T. G. Bolton has purchased the S. C. White property and will build a drugstore adjoining H. K. Oliver-son's store. . . . Plainview Musical Association successful in starting county group. . . . E. H. Marshall barbershop sold to Robert LaRock and Thomas Van-Dokak.

1889 Plainview water mains almost completed. . . . David McKeown receives \$60 bounty on six wolf scalps. . . . A. J. Carroll is cleaning out the old Leininger building for a post office. . . . The iron ore on the Hog's Back 10 miles from here is testing 60% in some places and 90% in others. . . . The Plainview Driving Assn. is now using the track on Mr. Smith's land (see picture of old Eddy residence). . . . Tom Askew has moved his family to Plainview and will manage the store of Mrs. Askew's uncle, F. J. Cornwell.

1890 Dr. Tefft has received his apparatus and cylinder oxygen and nitrogen gas from New York for treatment of chronic lung diseases. . . . Homemade bread, three loaves for 25 cents at Mrs. E. Pomeroy's. (Adv). . . . R. C. Wright and R. C. Stillman attended the GAR National Encampment. . . . A large crowd gathered to watch the croquet match played by the experts, Matt Wood and George Landon vs. Dave Wood and Frank Cornwell. . . . Wm. Weikel who has been taking contracts for furnishing meat to railroad crews in the Virginia mountains, has returned, leaving his son Fred there to look after business. Mr. Weikel has started home delivery service from his Plainview meat market. . . . The barley on Sam Tenney's place in Quincy has averaged 30 bushel to the acre. Crops are good and farmers happy, with little or no time to engage in politics, except those who would better conditions "by getting into office". . . . The Plainview School is introducing a music department this year. . . . A class of the Chautauqua Literary & Scientific Circle organized last evening at Prof. VanDyke's, with five new members enrolled in the class of '94. . . . The GAR Playhouse, being built by Dewitt Clark on East Broadway, will cost around \$2,400. . . . The Auxilium Club has engaged the Small Sisters for a benefit to purchase a piano for the GAR hall.



First Lutheran Church Under Construction in 1891
(Herman Boehlke and Herman Ehrenberg on scaffold)

1891 Skating is delightful on the Whitewater, also on the artificial ponds and flooded brickyard. . . . Phillip Arendt reports an 11-pound boy, making 14 children, 7 boys and 7 girls. And he has 100 acres of land for each. . . . Merry time at Mason's Entertainment, Cotillions, waltzes, schottisches and polkas until the "wee small hour". (Adv). . . . Charley -- is boarding at the Rochester Inebriate Asylum. . . . James Carley has been hired to teach the spring term at Smithfield School. . . . Something Plainview has wanted and every town should have is a receiving vault in the cemetery for use in severe weather. The village will be supplied as soon as the town supervisors see fit, the appropriation of \$300 was made last election. . . . J. B. Washburn shipped 20 horses to Boston, Mass. last week. It appears that Plainview has a new

market for surplus stock. . . . Greenwood Creamery made 1636 pounds of butter last week. . . . The following have satisfactorily completed the Teachers Institute here this summer: Clara Christison, Maggie Lahey, John Stephans, Jennie Champine, Nellie Christison, Mary Gorrell, Mary Gaylord, Nellie Lyon, Lizzie Sullivan, Lucy Clark, Phoebe Burton, Lottie Huntoon, Teresa Hall, Jennie Donaldson, Mary Burnham, Maggie Melvin, Agnes Leahy, Hattie Bates, Ella Knowlton, Lena Underwood, Mattie Davis, Iva Champine, Emma Gaylord, Ella Weikel, Mollie Riley, Libbie Hall, Emma and Edith Lyon, Bird Hall, Lulu Colby, Maude Wells and Anna May Evans. *Ed Note: Yet history says there was a teacher shortage even before 1900.*

1892 Orrin Pencille, music instructor, is opening a music store here. . . . Plainview High School promoted to second class. . . . Plainview's population has now reached 800. . . . St. James parish plans to build the Oakwood church which burned recently. . . . It appears the railroad bond controversy has finally been settled with the railroad paying the bonding company.

1893 The Marshall Brothers have engaged their aunt, Mrs. Mary Carroll, as landlady of the Plainview Hotel which they have purchased from Mrs. Ezra Feller who has run it alone since Uncle Ez's death. . . . J. B. Sololeski, the telephone expert, has put up new wire and replaced telephones and can now call neighboring towns as well as farms. . . . Several from here attended the Chicago World's Fair. Mr. Baldwin received a \$100 premium on his Norman mare and A. P. Foster \$600 on his Jersey cattle. . . . The move is gaining steam to form a telephone stock company to connect Plainview with Potsdam, with 100 shares at \$10 each. . . . The estimate on a telephone line from



In the Gay Nineties our local editor saw fit to wax poetic:

*There are two little girls in Plainview
Who wear bloomers cerulean in hue;
And when they wheel by
The women say "My!"
And the men on the sidewalk say "Whew!"*

Editor's Note: In 1956 we think we found the picture that inspired him. The names have changed, but the same spirit lives on.



The Old Bolton Building

(on Jefferson Street opposite Methodist Church)

here to Wabasha is \$1200 with repair and rental for five instruments \$100 a year. One instrument would be placed at Plainview, one in the Smithfield post office, one at Kellogg, one at the Court House and one in downtown Wabasha. . . . 200 new street lamps have been put up this week. The lights now extend up High Street and Broadway from Fricke's to the Catholic Church. . . . Plainview has formed another orchestra with Charles and Harry Ritter, Arthur Wickersham, J. H. Eggers, Royal Horton, Rolla Colby and Charley Cornwell.

1894 Coxey's Army invades Washington. . . . American marines have landed at Seoul, Korea. . . . Quite a few Plainview bicycle riders started for Elgin to return on the evening train. E. A. Carpenter made the run in 30 minutes. . . . The new sidewalk ordinance calls for a 12-foot walk in the business section and 4-foot residential walks. All must be made of 2-inch plank. . . . Here is an interesting letter found among Mr. James Carley's effects:

THE PLAINVIEW HOTEL
Marshall Brothers, Proprietors
Mr. J. A. Carley
No. 213 Beacon St., Mpls. Minn.

Plainview, Minn.
May 21, 1894

Dear Friend—I arrived here about the time or a little before the train did. Bolton took me around, and I had a good look at the town but am here at the hotel now, have had a meal and feel very well indeed. Guthrie is getting a blowout on the strength of going away. In the morning I expect to decide permanently where to locate my offices, are like hens' teeth at present. Does your trunk weigh over 150 pounds? Do you suppose you could send or bring my trunk on your ticket? It costs like sin to ship a trunk you know. Write me when you are going to arrive here.

Yours truly,
E. S. Muir, M.D.

The Plainview News is presently moving into the new building just completed by A. Davy. . . . J. A. Carley who has just graduated from the U of Minn. is returning to Plainview this week (June 23) to open a law office. . . . Plainview is having a building boom. G. H. Dickman is building just east of the creamery, R. W. Peyton near James Butts, H. L. Evans east of his mother's house and C. B. Osgood on North Street. . . . If a \$10,000 water tank would save a \$20,000 fire, it would pay to have waterworks, wouldn't it? . . . Landon & Burchard have shipped the first carload of popcorn out of Plainview. The corn was grown by A. C. Kimberley, 28,000 pounds on 11 acres, realizing \$400.

1895 Greenwood Cemetery Association organized with 39 members. Mrs. F. L. Meachum is president, and Mesdames Dan McFarlin, G. C. French, L. D. Colby, A. Davey, S. Purvis and H. Wedge on the executive committee. . . . The new stockyards have been completed and the first stock unloaded. Plainview now has one of the best yards on the NW line. . . . The drillers have at last stopped drilling on the town well. They have reached 326 feet with 138 feet of water.

1896 Plainview has organized a two-hose fire company with over 50 reporting. G. R. Hall is chairman and T. A. Askew secretary. The waterworks system has been completed. It pumps 60 gallons per minute, and has 17 fire hydrants, 2 hose carts, pumping station and cart house costing \$14,500. . . . Commercial Club organized with 30 members, bylaws adopted. H. G. Austin, T. A. Askew, M. J. Manchester and Art Koenig elected officers. . . . (Reprint from Winona paper) "What an Outsider Has to Say About Plainview: If any person wishes to see a flourishing town, let him step into Plainview. 103 teams in town, 11 more came in, enough posts for all. The city has a good hotel, five churches, three saloons, a machine shop, three blacksmiths, four full business blocks, new waterworks. The population is about 1000, and plans are under way to erect 30 new residences this summer". . . . The annual water rates according to recent ordinance are: Banks \$5, Barbershops \$5, Public



Church of Christ—1895

baths (per tub) \$6, Private baths \$3, Bars and Saloons \$8, Cows, Horses, Mules, each \$1, One-family Residences \$5. . . . One square of Broadway macadamized, balance of principal streets to be finished this year with stone gutters and curbstones and iron hitching rails. No more mud 10 inches deep on Main Street.

1897 R. Burkhardt & Son have located a brickyard here. The plant will be on a five-acre tract in the west end (present Vern Wright property), and will have a 300,000 brick capacity using hand-fired kilns. . . . The Ninth Annual Farmers Institute held by Supt. Gregg drew 450 interested in stock raising, dairying and poultry as well as a cooking school for the ladies. . . . Dickerman Bros. now manufacturing the Ideal Washer, churn and folding clothes reel. (Adv). . . . Clark and Falkestein from Elgin are opening a wagon shop in a new building 24x60 feet being erected by T. G. Bolton on Jefferson Street. (present Edwards Machine Shop). . . . See Plainview Nursery for fruits and ornamental trees, R. W. Chapman. (Adv). . . . Creamery and sawmill burned to ground. Mr. Look managed to get into the icehouse and save three tubs of butter. . . . Plainview High School ranks fifth in state in scholarship ratings. . . . Dr. Muir and Dr. Slocumb have dissolved partnership. Dr. Slocumb who came here in 1895 will continue the office alone. The Muirs who have been here since 1894 are moving to Winona. . . . Ladies Bicycle races to be held on Main Street this year. . . . As a special weekly feature, the Plainview News is writing a diary of the Spanish-American War. . . . Gerber & Beiter have established a cheese factory. George Hall and Frank Meachum are also opening a grist mill. . . . For a week now the daily papers have been filled with accounts of a mysterious airship hovering over the area. It appears to be equipped with a variety of colored lights. Where it came from, where it is bound for or what it is—nobody can explain, but some genius is having his fun. Ed. Note: Did Grandpa's saucer fly?. . . . George Purvis elected fire chief. Fire company agrees any



Charlie Venables, the "Watkins Man"

Long remembered as the Watkins man who always had fruit gum for the kids and a smile for everyone, Charlie Venables got his start in the Nineties when he walked several miles in below zero weather from the Laird station to Matt Keefe's farm to pick up a Dr. Ward's rig and dapple grey team abandoned there by a former agent. First advertising himself as sole agent for Dr. Wards in Winona and Olmsted Counties, he soon became the Wabasha County representative for J. R. Watkins.

member absent from meetings should be fined 25c, and anyone missing three meetings without due cause will be expelled. Great agitation to purchase a hook and ladder—before the next fire. . . . Law passed by Legislature applies to Plainview. The law reads that the township treasurer is authorized to repay money to a village formed within the township where an amount in excess of any bonded indebtedness of said township be collected. The case is familiar to all citizens, and apparently Plainview will get her share of the Railroad bond money paid to the township.



The Mountain Ash Boarding House

Now the Charles Posz residence, it was run in the 1890's by Mrs. David Taylor who was so accommodating she built on another room for each new boarder. The one directly above the entrance was for Harry Balcome.

1898 Water usage must be restricted until a new well is dug. . . . Word has been received that Carl Colby is in the Minnesota 13th Regiment based in San Francisco. Royal Horton and Gardner Colby are in the same regimental band. . . . George Duerre who has been county treasurer the last four years has purchased the A. P. Stafford hardware. . . . A telephone line is finally completed into Plainview from Elgin, providing contact with the N. W. Bell Company. Rates to Rochester, Winona and Wabasha are 25c, St. Paul 45c, for three minutes. . . . 1898 has been a creditable year for Plainview. On Main Street F. J. Cornwell's new brick block has been completed, also Marshall Brothers brick block, 25x60 feet, for \$3,500. Wm. Schultz has finished his \$3,500 home, and other houses have been built by Rev. Wm. Brown, Wm. Huxley, G. H. Dickman, Wallace Rowe, Alfred Davey, John Boie, P. H. Pendergast, J. H. Eggers, Alfred Burkhardt, A. J. Fricke, W. S. Baxter and T. G. Bolton.

1899 The Plainview News and Gleaner consolidated. Meachum & Co. have sold to T. G. Bolton who reports "Good Times in Sight for All". . . . Latest styles in capes, best thing in women's outer wear. F. J. Cornwell (Adv). . . . Martin Grove, Oakwood farmer, is leaving the farm and will enter the implement business here. . . . Hall-Meachum Company



"Homeward Bound"—1890

(Present site of TipTop Cafe)

have about determined to erect a modern flouring mill, raising their present building to three stories, with an office and storage building. They plan a capacity for making 75 barrels of flour and grinding 500 sacks of feed every 24 hours. . . . Plainview Bottling Works formed by Otto Huny and Charles Richmond, occupying the Spath Building, will manufacture pop, birch beer, gingerale, cherry phosphate, egg soda and a whole line of summer drinks. They plan to ship by team and rail. . . . The new town well started last year is now 625 feet deep, and the casing has been enlarged to 12 inches. Apparently the people propose to have a good well or punch the bottom out of the country. . . . Lawton Grocery has put in a cement walk for \$35. Herman Thom is waiting to see if it is a success before he follows suit. . . . Millville has formed a Cooperative Creamery with 32 members. J. A. Olin is president and Mr. Schleicher secretary and manager. They are building a new plant with a capacity of 12,000 pounds of milk. Alfred Roberts will be buttermaker. . . . Area crops look good. Even renters are making money. . . . Plainview Cooperative Creamery Association formed. Building to be located on Lot 5, Block 29, Plainview Village. Work to be completed this year on plant with 2,500 pound milk capacity. The association already has 43 members. William Reiter, L. D. Colby, Andrew French, W. P. Baldwin, A. Stolz, Peter Lamprecht and George Burnham were elected directors. . . . W. G. Mack and Wm. Walton publish first issue of the new Plainview Record. They already have 500 subscribers, \$1.00 a year.

THE GIFT OF THE CENTURY

Surely you must know someone who would enjoy this history as much as you have. Additional copies will be mailed for you with an appropriate gift card enclosed by sending \$3.00 to:

T. V. ZABEL, Chairman
Centennial Book Sales
Plainview, Minnesota

Be sure to print the name and address of the recipient plainly.

THE CENTURY STARTED TURNING, while the Plainview News and the Plainview Record listed the following advertisers:

H. D. Austin, Jewelry
Chas. E. Behner, Jewelry
Bohan Sisters Millinery
Bolton's Drug
Dr. H. B. Carpenter, Dentist
D. C. Clark, Attorney
K. C. Clark, Blacksmith
F. J. Cornwell, General Merchandise
E. R. Cornwell, Hardware
R. R. Damoude, Farm Machinery
Dickerman Bros., Novelty Works, Power Machines
George Duerre, Hardware
Erding Bros., Liquors
A. J. Fricke & Son, Harnessmakers
E. D. Gregory, Confectionery
Greenwood Prairie Roller Mills, Hall & Meachum
M. A. Grove, Farm Implements, Carriages
S. L. Jenks, Livery
Koenig Bros., General Merchandise
J. A. LaCraft, Jewelry
Laird-Norton Lumber Company
Landon-Burchard Drugs, Window Shades, New York Apples
Miss M. Lambie, Millinery
S. J. Lillie, City Livery
S. S. Lyons, Attorney
August Meyer, Cigar Mfr. "Belle of Plainview"
D. M. McFarlin, City Dray Line—Standard Oil Station
Nelson Furniture Company
Miss Nichols, Millinery
Oliverson & Woodcock, General Merchandise
Orrin Pencille, Pianos, Organs
Petit & Waste, Livery, Feed and Sale Stable
Plainview Bank, Sylvester Bros.
Plainview Bottling Works, O. Huny & C. Richmond
Plainview Hotel, A. Rockwell, Prop.
F. E. Richmond Sample Room, Choice Wines, Liquors, Cigars
Theo. Saxe Photo Gallery
Herman Schwantz, Pumps, Farm Supplies
A. Skorupinski, Tailor
Dr. J. A. Slocumb, Physician & Surgeon
M. O. Sundquist, Carriages, Woodworking
H. A. Thom, Shoes, Leather Goods
Weikel Brothers Meat Market (H. A. and Fred)
White Star Restaurant



The Menace of the Nineties

They stole the game in the afternoon, and our girls at night. Seated: John Muldoon, Mike Wadley, Wm. McGuigan, Adam Klein, Francis Muldoon. Standing: Wm. Muldoon, John Hebbeln, P. J. Cosgrove (captain), Edson (Mux) Christopher, T. W. McGuigan (scorekeeper), August Polson, George McClellan.

BASEBALL, almost since clocks first started running in Plainview, has been more than just a sport—it has been an occupation. Allie Fricke, son of the pioneer harnessmaker, in his 1920 biography recalled some of our earliest ball teams who soon after the Civil War were smartly uniformed in bright red flannel pants and gray shirts.

One of these teams included Charley Donaldson, Sr., Jerry Baldwin, Sell Washburn, Ted Washburn, George Smith, Frank Halleck and George Fuller. (See *Henry T. Washburn's reminiscences on page 30*)

The next team, according to Mr. Fricke, included Lon Pomeroy as catcher; Ernie Eddy and Charles

Hardy, pitchers; George Purvis, first base; F. Wilson, shortstop; J. Cline, second base; H. Thurston, third base; George Huntley, left field; A. Maxwell, center field; and John Vincent, right field. *What a memory!*

Digressing from baseball, Mr. Fricke also recalled having seen sheep washed and people baptized in the same Whitewater swimming hole on the same Sunday—not to mention 25 to 40 games of "chuck-your-luck" going on right back of the old Post Office building on a Sunday afternoon. He went on to add, however, that "the boys" were all lumberjacks or harvest hands who earned \$3 to \$4.50 a day, anxious to spend their money but never disorderly.



The 1890 Baseball Boys

Inset: Mark Jenks

1. Ed Kernan
2. John O'Connell
3. Harry Austin
4. George Purvis
5. Allie Frickie
6. Art DePuy
7. Harry Weikel
8. Fred Weikel
9. Lee Meachum
10. "Catcher" Johnson
11. Charles Hamlin
12. Harry Smith

The 1915 Team

(Mississippi Valley League)

1. Neil Oppegard
2. Thaddeus Davy
3. Buzz Richmond
4. Dutch Hostettler
5. Gil Timm
6. Byrl Sylvester
7. Neil Dowe
8. Pitcher Lindgren
9. Mike Foley
10. Clarence Mason
11. Doc Moore
12. Charles Richmond
13. Mitt Leininger
14. Herbert Timm
15. Arnold Schultz
16. Art Kennedy
17. Fritz Hardt
18. Bert Christopher



DO YOU REMEMBER the excitement of the old steam threshing days? Maybe you weren't quite old enough at 14 to be one of the crew, but next year you could go. Somehow, being accepted into the threshing ring made men out of boys. The girls were pressed into duty too, both to do chores while the men were gone and to help Mother feed the hungry hoard when the rig pulled into their place . . . four "squares" a day were taken for granted.

Yes, those were the days. No one would want to go back to them, but no one would want to forget them either. And thanks to an energetic and foresighted photographer named Rogers, you don't have to. As the century turned, his roving camera was also turning on dozens of rigs and crews for many miles around. However, these are the only two pictures which could be identified or which time had not dimmed beyond reproduction.



Our earliest steam threshing picture, taken on the Daniel Cowles farm in 1898

John Evans, Engineer; Art (Pete) Marshall, Fireman. On separator: Pete Morgan, standing; Si Keller, Bert Gillingham, seated. Standing below: Bert Jones, James Christison, Walt Dunn, Herman Marquardt, George Hunter, Merton Cowles. Louie Caldwell is water-boy, and Frank Tittington and Erwin Cowles on grain wagon.



The Threshers Pause to Pose on the Christ Schad Farm in 1900

Left to right: George Lloyd, Pete Petit, Christ Schad, Chas. Balcom, Ed Schad, Bill Schad, John Ammon, Paul Schmidt, August Goetz, Sr., Barney Sader, Henry Lehnertz, Fred Goetz, Pete Lehnertz, Howard Amos, Jack LaBoudy, Fred Amos, Chas. Amos, Sr., Dan Amos, S. L. Lloyd, George Lloyd, Glen Ball.

1900 Early Tuesday morning, January 30, farmers began coming to town with milk cans loaded in their wagons. First to empty his cans into the receiving tank was J. J. Reiter. The new Plainview Cooperative Creamery emptied 4200 pounds of milk and made 200 pounds of butter its first day with A. L. Lund as butter-maker. . . . March 16: Village and town elections cause controversy. The annual village election developed into a redhot campaign by Tuesday and those who had political axes to grind started early and lost no time until the polls closed. The principal bone of contention was issuing of licenses with a majority of 7 voting in favor. . . . While the village election proved interesting, that of the town was even more so. When Tuesday arrived there were so many tickets in the field the politicians were badly mixed up as to outcome. 389 votes were cast, with two men living in the village being elected to town offices. The Plainview Record sought the opinion of the Attorney General on the question, "Could those living in the village elected to fill town offices qualify?" He was absent in Washington, but his assistant gave as his opinion that they could not. . . . March 23: Those who were elected township officers at the recent election appeared

before "Squire" Norton Monday, and the new board of supervisors appointed Andrew French, Judson Wentworth and R. C. Wright to fill the vacancies caused by the separation of township and village. . . . Ed McCollough has been named first village marshall. . . . The Plainview Record buys Elgin Free Press from R. H. Lueneberg. Mack and Walton will continue as editors, and the paper will be known as the Plainview Record and Elgin Free Press, serving all subscribers of both previous papers. . . . Our second car of buggies, surreys and carriages just arrived, M. A. Grove & Son. (Adv). . . . A new village ordinance will forbid riding of bicycles on Broadway in Blocks 8, 9, 10, 14, 15 and 16. It also requires riders to dismount when passing pedestrians on any other village walk. . . . Dr. Sloumb at a special meeting this week proposed that a street fair be held in Plainview with farmers displaying their livestock and farm products. Booths could be erected by the merchants, and with the proper music and amusements the Street Fair would advertise our town as progressive and up to date. He also suggested that such a fair be made an annual affair. Sufficient funds were guaranteed, and the Plainview Street Fair Association was formed with T. G. Bolton, G. H. Dick-

*Plainview's
Gilded Gaslight Era*

*Musicians
Unidentified*



Remember when Mother never opened the parlor except for "company" or at housecleaning time? And then she had everyone beating carpets and stretching curtains with a vengeance? And how she would scold Grandpa if he sneaked into the parlor for a peaceful pipetful . . .

man, Frank Sylvester, C. D. Burchard, J. A. LaCraft and Art Koenig directors. . . . The drug firm of Burchard & Landon has been changed to Burchard & Laack. . . . The proposed new road between Plainview and Wabasha is to follow township lines. . . . Plainview Street Fair to last four days, will pay \$600 in premiums. Excellent exposition of livestock promised. There will be a band concert each day and fireworks each evening. The first day's program includes: Industrial Street Parade, Colored Singers, Tug of War (Kellogg vs. Plainview), Egg Race, Ladies Nail Driving Contest, Wheelbarrow Race, Catching Greased Pig. The Industrial Parade will be repeated the second day followed by a Broncho Race, Barrel Race, Sack Race, Climbing Greased Pole, Giant Livestock Sale at Livestock Pavilion, Wedding Ceremony on Bandstand, Indoor Baseball Game, Bicycle Race, and Grand Ball with music by Plainview Cornet Band. . . . Saturday evening a Republican Club was organized in the Village Hall with G. H. Dickman, G. R. Hall, D. C. Clark and Lee Meachum taking office. Apparently these Plainviewites had no Democratic competition other than with their "kissin' cousin" Elgin, who had a Democratic rally the same week, which Plainviewites had the pleasure of listening to only about 20 minutes when they were forced to depart to catch the train home.



The Koenig Block Built in 1899

The sleigh and picture belonged to the Glaesmers

1901 Wm. Folich has bought the White Star restaurant and is providing accommodations for boarders and lodgers. . . . The Plainview Growlers Club has picked its topics for the year: New Electric Light Plant, Village Park, Abolition of Church Contributions, Two Scoops for a Nickel, and Government Ownership of Egyptian Pyramids. . . . Oliverson & Woodcock have dissolved partnership. Oliverson will continue the general store, Woodcock will engage in the machine business. . . . J. P. Waste, postmaster, is making every effort to establish rural routes. Mail now arrives three times daily by stage. . . . The Ladies Cemetery Association at their sixth annual meeting reported 26 paying and working members with improvements made: Iron fence at entrance, seven seats, 14 vases at \$20 each and a system of waterworks for irrigation. . . .

Legislature taxes canine tribe, male dogs \$3 and females \$5, such tax will go into a fund to reimburse farmers for sheep killed. . . . Contracts have been let for the new Odd Fellows Building for \$2,500 and the Nelson Furniture Building for \$4,000, with a stairway between used by both (present home of King-Rother and Mann Clothing). . . . George Dickman, well known to the retail trade here, to open a clothing store for men only. . . . Plainview Gun Club to hold second annual tournament at Smith Park. . . . Second annual Street Fair draws large crowd. . . . Rudolph Timm awarded contract for lighting street lamps at \$10 a month.

1902 Greenwood Prairie Telephone Company incorporates with capital stock of \$25,000. Andrew French new president, F. D. Washburn, W. T. Lee, I. A. Grove, L. E. Ryan, Frank Appel and A. F. Hanneman directors. . . . Mack buys out Walton, becomes sole publisher of Plainview Record and Elgin Free Press. . . . New Greenwood Prairie phone company installs central office in Koenig block, reports 77 phones connected and about 50 more as fast as lines can be put up. Charge to stockholders 50c a month, \$1.50 for whole system. . . . The Plainview Clydesdale Horse Assn. has been formed with Andrew French, Blake Fisk, Peter Lamprecht officers and Pete Petit manager. . . . Plainview to have new bank, First National Bank to open next door to Plainview Hotel with A. L. Ober president and F. G. Shumway cashier. . . . W. G. Edwards from Arkansas, Wisconsin, has taken over the blacksmith and wagon shop occupied by K. C. Clark. . . . Rural mail routes have been laid out through Oakwood, Woodland and Six Oaks. . . . The Village Council has granted the right to construct and conduct an arc and incandescent electric lighting system in and for the village of Plainview to T. G. Bolton, Arthur Koenig and F. J. Cornwell and Associates for a period of 12 years.

1903 Koenig Bros. incorporate with two new members, Adolph Brieze and Frank Schad, new firm will be known as Koenig Bros. & Co. . . . Plans for new school completed, 64x128 feet, costing less than \$26,500, heating plant \$3,500. Urgent we build fast, one room jammed with 62 scholars, state aid lost if school conditions not improved this year. . . . Lands in Crookston area open to homesteaders. . . . Dancing School, Miss Leib will be at Erding Hall at 8 Friday



"... and ever shall be."

evening. (Adv). . . . Town board authorizes purchase of safe and road grader. . . . Plainview yards ship 18 cars of stock this week. . . . Plainview Ladies Orchestra issues invitations for their Easter Ball in GAR Hall. . . . For \$1.50 Dwelle Telephone Co. will give patrons the service of 15 stations in this vicinity, 135 farmers and the Wabasha exchange. (Adv). . . . H. K. Oliverson is opening a general store in Elgin with Theo. Schwirtz manager. . . . Burchard & Laack have completed their new ice cream parlors. . . . Dr. Slocomb and Mr. Carley returned from St. Paul with their new autos (*two shiny one-seated red ramblers*), and all the citizens are out to watch the manipulation. Neither has balked nor bolted the track, but like a broncho you never know when they will buck. Both gentlemen appear to handle the machines like old hands. . . . Blue Laws vs. Sunday baseball causing controversy. . . . More than 160 people boarded the circus train for Rochester yesterday. . . . School Board lets contract for new heating plant to LaCrosse firm for \$5,595. *Ed Note: Thought it couldn't cost over \$3,500.* . . . Threshing season nearly over, barley averaging 18-20 bushel per acre. Fred Goetz reports 34½ bushel. . . . Fourth annual Street Fair to have herd of seven buffalo, highwire performers, baby show, address by Gov. VanSant, balloon ascension, also "Prof" Woodcock's trick pony. . . . The Ladies Vegetable Club, who must thoroly understand nutritive value of and be able to spell any vegetable backwards to attain membership, attend Rochester convention, return on evening train after dessert of pie, cake and coffee. *Pumpkin and banana, no doubt.* . . . St. Charles in ruins from twister (October 9), at least six dead, loss estimated at \$300,000. Plainview-Elgin Dancing Club give benefit for sufferers. . . . Whole block burns, loss \$19,000 to Bolton Building on Jefferson Street, Grove & McNallan Machinery on ground floor, News-Gleaner printing office and Modern Woodmen Hall on second

floor. Firemen save Edwards Machine Shop 25 feet away, prevent total damage to Gregory & Lovejoy Paint Shop. . . . New Conception Church dedicated. . . . Bolton's News-Gleaner and Mack's Plainview Record consolidate, to be called "Plainview News" with W. G. Mack as publisher. . . . Plainview Canning Company formed, capital stock of \$25,000. T. G. Bolton elected president, F. G. Shumway, W. N. Mills secretary and treasurer. Work begins on site purchased from Carl Podein west of roundhouse. Mr. Briesline to be in charge of building. Company plans to start corn pack next season. . . . December 30: Electa Sylvester dies in Iroquois Theater fire in Chicago.

1904 R. R. Damoude, who has been in the machinery business here for 25 years, has sold out to George French. . . . Basket social at Brown's schoolhouse two miles south of town. Remember, that neck of the woods is filled with good cooks, boys. . . . H. A. Thom sells shoe store to Charles Bush of Dover, purchases Mallory corner on Broadway. . . . College of Ladies' Dressmaking & Tailoring opens. Located in Richmond Block on E. Broadway with about 50 already enrolled in the class, it is managed by Mr. Wheeler, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Weld and Mr. Owen. . . . Sure signs of Spring: First robin seen this week and first hobo run out of town. . . . Professor J. Albert Conaway to leave after two years as musical director here. . . . Electa Sylvester memorial organ dedicated at Methodist Church. . . . Dr. E. E. Smith has purchased the dental business of Dr. W. P. Duerre. . . . New schoolhouse dedicated (April 29), total cost \$36,494.58. . . . Improved farms for sale, \$25 acre up, Geo. Dickman. (Adv). . . . Fine 12-year old rye whisky recommended for medical purposes at J. J. Erdings. (Adv). . . . Twenty members of the "Catch All Club" spent Tuesday on the Zumbro. . . . Many



The Conaway Classical Orchestra

A group of earnest music-lovers who practiced every Sunday afternoon in 1902 at the Schwantz home. .1. Ella Schwantz (Becker), 2. Grace Wright, 3. Vade Marshall (Christopher), 4. Frances Cornwell (Dewitt), 5. Floss Marshall (Melody), 6. Lottie Damoude (Conaway), 7. Zora Lyon (Green), 8. Alta Meachum (Fisk), 9. Gladys Meachum (French), 10. Maude Cornwell, 11. J. Albert Conaway (Conductor), 12. Paul Johnson, 13. Mabel Ross (Hepner), 14. Wesley Christopher, 15. Gardner Colby, 16. Emma Koenig (Marshall), 17. Henry Binder.

attend Rochester semi-centennial. . . . H. K. Oliverson has disposed of 24 feet of his Broadway property including the building occupied by D. H. Foster to R. F. Mulcahy for \$1,150. . . . By efforts of our fishermen, 22 cans of trout fry have been placed in Beaver, East and West Indian Creeks. . . . Plainview Cannery to employ 75-80 persons, 30 boys and girls 12 years or older. Corn husking will be done in the building and will require 30 huskers who are paid by the basket. Applications are now being taken. . . . Street Fair to pay \$2.50 premiums to oldest married couple, to married couple with largest family and to owner of best kept lawn. . . . Plainview businessmen organize Merchant's Association, elect C. D. Burchard president. . . . More residences ordered to remove planks and put in cement or stone walks. . . . Special trains required from Eyota for Plainview Street Fair. . . . Death from typhoid near here. Many cases in state, but Board of Health does not list typhoid as contagious disease.



The Old Gem Theatre in 1903

. . . . The Plainview News has moved from its old quarters in the Nelson Block to the new Bolton building erected for the News. . . . "Dorcas Society" formed for aiding needy mothers with sewing, etc. It is a charitable organization not associated with any church. . . . Only 50 couples attended Leap Year Ball. . . . Fifty carloads of cabbage and onions have been shipped (November 25), and many more to go. . . . Don't be a town-killer, says an exchange. Spend your money at home and help the progress and growth of

your chosen village. (Wisdom, even if it is 52 years old). . . . Bachelors' Club initiates three new members, Dr. Whitcomb, Matt Duerre and Fred Erding, at banquet at Erding's Hall. The menu included oxtail soup, venison, olive oil pickles, fried mountain oysters, cold meats, cooked by Ed Hardin. *What, no protein?*



Plainview Canning Company—1905

1905 Appendicitis cured without the knife by Dr. Weick, Chiropractic Cure & College, over Reifkogels. (Adv). . . . Plainview Public Library Association formed. . . . Mrs. Minnie Sawyer purchases Plainview Hotel from A. Rockwell. . . . Frank A. Taylor, well known Elba barber, buys Will Slater shop here. . . . Plainview State Bank elects Edwin L. Sylvester president, George Sylvester and Wm. Uecker directors. . . . County pays \$568.40 gopher bounty, \$802.50 wolf bounty and \$12 wildcat bounty for year.

1906 Young Men's Progressive Club meet over Eggers Jewelry, now have 60 members, clubroom open every night 7 to 11. . . . From Elgin Monitor: Arthur Becker has removed to Plainview permanently to work in Koenig Bros. as manager of their furniture department and to operate an undertaking business of his own.

1907 William Friedell of Rochester has taken over the White Star Restaurant from Charles Posz who will devote his full time to the produce business. . . . Legislature proposes bill which would allow town boards to prohibit travel by car on township roads. . . . Ellen and Eva Gran open millinery and dress-making establishment. . . . Gold found on Pat Gainey



Fifty years ago, when cabbages made kings.

farm two miles south of Elba. A cigar box of ore sent to Minneapolis to be assayed has been proven to contain \$7.12 of gold. . . . Dr. J. A. Slocumb has moved into his new office building on Broadway. . . . 600 attend game to watch Plainview beat the Winona Indians nine 4-2. . . . Greenwood Prairie Telephone Company now giving weather forecast on rural lines at 10 A.M., signal seven rings. . . . New soda fountain, real fruit juices and genuine extracts. Burchard and Rohweder. (Adv). . . . New line of flynets, dusters, storm aprons, robes and cushions. J. Fricke & Son. (Adv).



A Vine-Covered Cottage—1909

1908 Enjoy our Sunday chicken dinner, music by 6-piece orchestra, 25c. White Star Restaurant, C. S. Schmidt, Prop. (Adv). . . . Plainview Amateur Basketball team organized, Jesse Taylor, president. . . . M. J. Kane opens branch of Winnipeg Real Estate office here. . . . M. D. Fuller elected president First National Bank. . . . Town mourns death of Father Murray, builder of St. Joachim's. . . . Crescendo Club formed, 30 members in singing society. . . . Richard Brown will open the Plainview Cigar Factory next month, manufacturing the *Plainview Booster*. . . . Plainview Peoples Cooperative Laundry starts operation with Mr. Kuehl as manager. . . . Ninth annual street fair to be known as Wabasha County Industrial Fair. . . . Mark McFarlin has purchased the Ross & Larson dray line.

. . . . Nearly 100 cars of cabbage have been shipped, bringing \$18-\$20 a ton on the local market. . . . A. E. Becker receives newly remodeled and refinished hearse, one of the finest funeral cars in southern Minnesota. . . . F. J. Nettekoven has purchased the Martin Klees lunch and pool room. . . . Happy crowd on Main Street with little German band to celebrate James Carley's victory as representative—proceeded home at 4:30 A.M. . . . Businessmen ask for new city hall and suitable fire house, jail and council chambers. . . . For Christmas we offer dolls with kid bodies and bisque heads, "Flinch", leather collar and cuff bags, music rolls, puff boxes. Koenig Bros. (Adv). . . . August Zabel barn burns, loss \$3,500. . . . Alonzo Rockwell has resumed proprietorship of the Plainview Hotel. . . . The Plainview Mutual Fire Insurance Company, chartered in 1889, announce the resignation of Andrew French as secretary and manager after 20 years of service.

1909 All church guilds raising money for support of Plainview Hospital. . . . W. G. Edwards, auto specialist, invites you to inspect the new "Buick". (Adv). . . . Plainview Auto Club organizes with 13 members. Dr. E. E. Smith, George Dickman, W. R. Chamberlain, G. F. Sylvester named officers. Other members include J. A. Carley, Dr. J. A. Slocumb, L. F. Greiger, W. G. Edwards, J. H. Eggers, Jr., C. B. Marshall, J. L. Marshall, George Plein and A. C. Woodcock. The club is organized by car owners for promotion of favorable legislation, reasonable enforcement of motor laws, and construction and care of good roads. . . . George Dickman elected president of Plainview Hospital Association at annual meeting. Resolution passed that present hospital arrangement cease and a committee be appointed to raise necessary funds and purchase a site. . . . Burchard sells interest in drug store to W. E. Miller, new firm of Rohweder & Miller to be known as Plainview Drug Co. Burchard will devote full time to his seed house which has been a sideline for over 15 years. . . . Plainview Canning Co. tracks extended to serve new storage



Shortcake Tonight and Jam Next Winter

Charles Ritter (in buggy), Henry (Shorty) Osborn (beside buggy), Clarence Johnson (holding horse). Standing: Margaret Nelson (Osborn), Grace Wright, Eva McCullough, Cecil Bermeister, Mrs. Rilla Mills, Annie Holst (Goetz), Delia Podine, Mrs. Ritter, Mrs. Ehrenberg. Seated: Dora Hostettler (Boardman), Helen LaRocque, Molly Lawrence, Angie Bruce and Madeline Purvis (Lawrence).

plant with 60,000 bushel capacity being built by W. N. Mills. . . . Smith & Carley receive carload of Ford touring cars. Factory now turning out 450 cars a week. . . . Dode Fisk's Shows coming attraction, show travels in 14 RR cars. . . . Gardner Colby is now showing movies every night at the Plainview Opera House. This week, the Ganz-Nelson fight with illustrated songs, 10c for all. . . . George French & Son sell their machinery business to L. J. Hardtke & Sons. . . . James Carley, general manager of Greenwood Prairie Telephone Company, announces a new 60-page telephone directory. . . . Meachum Co. announces the sale of Greenwood Prairie Roller Mills to Adolph Klaveter of Winona. . . . Greenwood Prairie Telephone Co. to cover county south of Zumbro and Dwelle Co. to cover county north of Zumbro. . . . The Mmes. Alex and Henry LaRocque left for Milk River, Canada, to join their husbands and make new homes there.



George Plein delivering a 1909 Ford to George Cook

1910 Plainview has had another building boom. The Burchard Seed House has been completely remodeled, and Koenig Bros. remodeled to add a larger ladies ready-to-wear. New residences last year include Conductor Babcock on Broadway, L. Krueger, Albert Koenig, D. D. Harrington, Dr. J. A. Slocumb, Dr. E. E. Smith, J. N. Donaldson and P. H. Smith. . . . Auto veils, 2½ yards long in all shades at Gran & Gran. (Adv.) . . . The Plainview Municipal Band has organized for another year with C. M. Schneider leader. . . . W. C. Harper, Winona, to manufacture cigars here in rooms over Martin Schwartz saloon. . . . City Dads extend franchise to electric company for 12 more years. . . . Opera House well filled for Eastern Star Minstrels. . . . When you clean house, don't forget the "Vacuum Cleaner". Rent it from ladies at ME Church, stored at parsonage. . . . A 210-pound Rock Sturgeon taken out of Lake Pepin sets record. . . . Wabasha to have own hospital in near future. . . . Plainview Truckgrowers Association organized with 15 charter members. E. A. Wedge, C. L. Waterman, C. H. Ritter and H. C. Anderson elected officers. According to the city papers, Plainview is fast becoming known as the cabbage and onion capital of the country. . . . City Dads announce village entirely out of debt with balance of over \$3,000 on hand. . . . M. O. Fuller and Charles Posz have set out 35 acres of fruit

trees as an experiment. . . . Jacob Schilling, Smithfield buttermaker, awarded gold medal in State Dairy & Food Dept. butter-scoring contest. . . . Sugar beet culture will be more extensively taken up this season. . . . Construction begins on new City Hall. . . . James Foster of Lodi, Wisconsin, is establishing a cement block factory here with machinery run by steam. . . . New society of Young Men organized for promotion of cleanliness of human beings. . . . Hoffman's Tonsorial Parlors purchased by Owen Sullivan and Lawrence Lyons.



A Load of Grist and Four Boehlkes

(At Herman Stephan farm now owned by Frank Kruger)

1911 Plainview Canning Co. offers prizes to growers delivering most corn per acre in 1911. . . . Editorial comment, "If we must make a dumping ground of our streets, let us all be more considerate and dump these ashes along the edge of the streets." . . . John Sloan takes over cigar factory. . . . Koenig Bros. open a large store at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, will continue Plainview operation as before. . . . Plainview Electric Light & Power Co. complete wiring to Henry Walch farm east of town with lights in both house and barn. . . . Foundation poured for new city jail, so we will "soon have a hotel to accommodate undesirables". . . . Rochester Auto Club visits Plainview, 36 autos, over 175 people, band renders concert. . . . Bolton Drug has installed a filling station at the rear of their store where gas can be pumped directly into the auto gas tanks. . . . Dr. E. A. French moves into Bolton Bldg. . . . Special school board



Seven Octogenarians in Reunion—1913

Ben McCarty, 85; William Rock, 84; Jim Butts, 85; Fred Wahler, 82; Alfred Curtis, 88; Dennison Melendy, 89; E. L. Martin, 85.

meeting called in Dr. Slocumb's office closes school, five new diphtheria cases, school to be fumigated before it reopens. . . . Domestic Science Department to be installed in basement of school. . . . The Municipal Band under the direction of Prof. Bliss has 41 members signed for coming year.

1912 Coming attractions at the Opera House include Dunbar Singing Orchestra, the Hamline and Carleton College Glee Clubs, a Schubert comedy and Brandon Amusement Company's shows. . . . Dan McFarlin purchases the William Yandon home delivery business. . . . Fire causes serious damage to Plainview Mill owned by A. R. Klaveter. . . . Botsford Lumber takes place of Laird-Norton, John Keough to remain as manager. . . . First Fireman's Easter Ball held in new City Hall, 206 numbers sold, supper at Opera House served by Mrs. Schmidt. . . . Frank J. Nettekoven purchases Plainview Hotel from A. F. Rockwell. . . . Drs. Telford & Telford, osteopaths, take over Dr. S. H. Stover's practice. . . . H. K. Oliverson is moving his general store to the Nelson Furniture Building. . . . Weikel Meat Market sold to Tony Schwartz. . . . Beaver Mill destroyed by fire. . . .

New St. Joachim's church dedicated. . . . Jolly Rambler Club meets at home of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Dickman. Attending with their wives were M. J. Manchester, A. C. Woodcock, J. T. Fisk, James A. Carley and Fred Petrick. *Are these the original owners of Ramblers in town?* . . . W. G. Mack moves the Plainview News into its new home on Broadway. . . . M. J. Manchester and Charles Richmond purchase the Thompson elevators at Plainview, Elgin and Viola. . . . Greenwood Prairie Telephone Company first in southern Minnesota to complete long distance connections with both Tri-State and NW Bell companies, 1200 phones in vicinity.

1913 Plainview Coop Creamery reports making 193,868 pounds of butter last year. The buttermaker's family consumed 147 of them. . . . A. S. Murrison of Brooklyn, Iowa, purchases the H. H. Bell Variety Store. . . . Carley & Plein offer the new Overland \$985 completely equipped. (Adv). . . . Plainview Poultry Association formed with 25 members. . . . J. S. Gedney pickle factory totally destroyed by fire. A Minneapolis man registered at the Plainview Hotel under the name J. P. Murphy admits setting the fire. . . . W. R. Chamberlain opens new garage on Main St. . . . Charles



DO YOU REMEMBER when onions weren't just a garden vegetable—they were an industry and way of life. Three generations found it fashionable and profitable to work in the onion fields during school vacation.

All summer they were cultivated, weeded and thinned. When they matured to just the right firmness they were raked into rows to be sorted and crated. Then came the storage until they were ready for market and the price was right. All the drugstores carried heavy stocks of liniment and sunburn lotion of course.

We had several small patches, but many growers like Ritter, Waterman and Woodcock devoted 15 or 20 acres to a "patch".



Shorty Osborn and Charles Ritter



Bush sells shoe business to Ernest Goetz. . . . Plainview Auto Company formed by George Plein, Joe Ley and Frank Cook, will carry complete line of cars as well as storage and service. . . . Paul Engstrom, Wabasha photographer, purchases the studio of R. K. Stebbins. . . . Plainview Athletic Assn. to promote town basketball team with Dr. Tom Moore as coach.



1914 Faculty

Misses Lizzie Elliott, Nettie Harrington, Amy R. French (Supt.), Alzina Munger, Ida Olin, Susie Walzer, Mae Robinson, Ruth Early, Ina Whipple, Ada Koepke, Grace Wright and Mary Lahey. Center rear: Lloyd Mikkelson and Ross White.

1914 Many Farmers Clubs being organized throughout area. . . . Greenwood Prairie forms first cowtesting association, George Christison, A. O. Knowlton and C. R. Grieve named officers. . . . Pepin Pickling Company buys Gedney site, to build salting station. Have contracted 60 acres of cucumbers so far. . . . Bolton builds new building for Edwards Auto Company. . . . 200 attend five-day short course for county farmers and wives at Plainview high school. Mississippi Valley League baseball team takes shape,

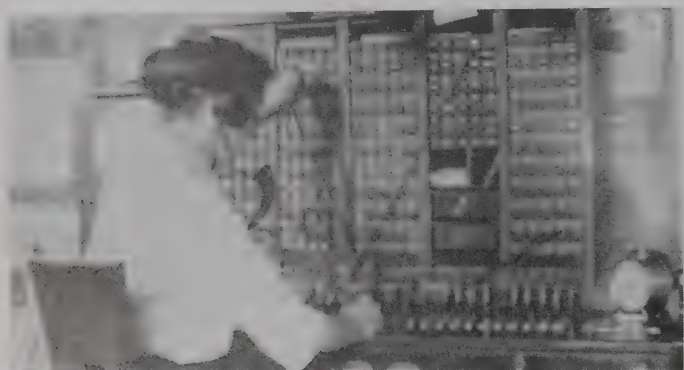
C. E. Richmond, manager. . . . Local men form wholesale garment company in Minneapolis. Arthur Koenig, Adolph Briesse, Frank Schad and Ward Miller, all associates of Koenig & Co. here, have interest. Miller will move to Minneapolis, Schad and Briesse will remain in Plainview. . . . New Chicago NW depot completed, cost \$7,000. . . . Commercial Club again sponsors University Week with full lecture and entertainment program. . . . Koenig & Co. sell Sioux Falls store to firm of Shriver-Johnson. . . . Local firms change hands. Charles Donaldson purchases Austin Jewelry. R. J. Boardman takes Miller interest in Plainview Drug, company to continue as Rohweder & Boardman. George Walker takes over the City Livery from Petit. . . . Businessmen unite with Wabasha County Fair Board to have permanent fairgrounds at Plainview. Buildings including grandstand and track to be completed for 1914 Fair, according to George Dickman and Charles Grieve, directors. . . . James A. Carley moves law office and central phone office from Koenig block into the old Lawton building which he has completely remodeled with new front, skylight, etc.

1915 Plainview breaks attendance records at second annual Grand Chautauqua. . . . W. A. O'Connor sells plumbing business on East Broadway to Hugh Long from West Coast. . . . Local Boy Scout troop organized by Charles Burchard, F. D. Washburn and George Dickman. . . . George H. Perkins of St. Paul to take over Plainview Photo Gallery from Paul Engstrom. . . . Plainview Gun Club reorganized by Walter Mills, Ernie Goetz and R. J. Boardman, weekly shoots scheduled. . . . Local athlete, Curt Timm, receives third high honor at Hamline. . . . Plainview



Plainview's First Boy Scout Troop—1915

1. Malcolm Smith
2. Leonard Zarb
3. Art Holst
4. Paul Jacobs
5. Orland Johnson
6. Bill Taylor
7. Lloyd Arnold
8. Harold Oliverson
9. Harry Larson
10. Harry Nunamaker
11. Tony Kubiawicz
12. Lyle Slawson
13. Paul Venables
14. Alwin Yandon
15. Malcolm Weigel
16. Bob Reifkogel
17. Rev. Hoffman, Scoutmaster
18. Milton Stoltz
19. Charles DePuy
20. Clarence Kruger
21. Bill Hardtke



An Old Greenwood Prairie Switchboard

The year was maybe 1914—the girl's name was maybe Connery

News editor devotes front page to description of present-day Plainview. Population 1200, three theaters, six farm machinery houses, land bringing \$250 per acre, "The Garden Spot of Minnesota".

1916 Plainview hard hit by Grippe, whole families laid low. . . . Professor Conaway returns to again lead Municipal Band. . . . Pioneers in Reunion, Greenwood Prairie Old Settlers have largest gathering in history (See picture, page 53). . . . Odd Fellows initiate class of 30 members. . . . Brueske & Hanson sell meat market to H. H. Nichols. . . . Barney Sader purchases Plainview Mill from Klaveter. . . . Dan McFarlin sells store delivery wagon business to Will Anderson. . . . Plainview Livestock Shipping Assn. holds first annual meeting, Burnham named manager another year. . . . Plainview goes dry by one vote, 177 to 176. . . . "Miss Topsy Turvy" presented to packed house by cast including Elsie Erding, Byrl Sylvester, Mollie Lawrence, George Vermilya, Bessie Edwards,

Earl Richmond, Miss Roberts and Ralph Murray. . . . George Foreman, local dealer, sells pile of scrap iron to Chicago buyer, ships over 40 carloads. . . . New Immanuel Lutheran Church dedicated, special train brings several hundred visitors. . . . B. E. Rohweder buys Boardman interest, becomes sole owner of Plainview Drug, leases Erding building. . . . Anderson Addition of nearly 100 lots added to Village Plat. . . . Watertown Canning Company of Watertown, Wisconsin, takes over local plant. . . . Farmers Clubs and Old Settlers take excursion to Winona by train and to LaCrosse by steamer. CNW uses two engines and ten coaches to carry the 500 people from Plainview and Elgin to Eyota. . . . Minnesota Gold Mining Co. brings powerful drilling machine to Andrew Majerus farm near Elba where prospecting operations begin at once. Several shafts also sunk on Gainey farm and stock now being sold to raise capital. . . . Plainview State Bank, Becker Lumber Company, Watertown factory make extensive improvements this year. . . . Light plant changes from direct to alternating current.

1917 New \$60,000 highway laid out from Kellogg through Plainview to Elgin. . . . Plainview holds first patriotic demonstration in county. . . . Byrl Sylvester first Plainview boy to leave States for France, assigned to Ambulance Corps. . . . Ladies form civic league, all Plainview called to colors to aid Red Cross. . . . J. I. Vermilya elected president of First National Bank. . . . Ralph Murray purchases Cornwell Hardware. . . . Dr. E. E. Smith's dental offices rated one of finest in state. . . . Local theatre hit by latest war tax, Mgr. Colby adds 2c to general admission. . . .



Rice and Barley Flour Made Fine Bread—Once You Learned How

In this World War I Cooking School picture one golden-ager recognized Mrs. Wolfe, the demonstrator, Mrs. Mulcahey, Mrs. French, Mrs. Yandon and Mrs. Curtis Slawson. How many can you name?

Edwards Auto Company sold to Wm. McMillan and Will Sagissor, Edwards to continue machine shop. . . . Merchants hold gigantic drawing. Prizes include automobile, \$100 Liberty bond, \$50 goldpiece. . . . Wabasha County to have county agent if Farm Bureau can raise 700 members.

1918 Red Cross auction and carnival net over \$1,300. . . . Dr. Christie M. MacKenzie, osteopathic physician and surgeon, to open offices here. . . . Plainview businessmen release employees for harvest work. . . . Flu epidemic hits area. City hall turned into hospital, all doctors on 24-hour duty. Fifteen deaths at last report. . . . Armistice celebrated solemnly.

1919 Julius Boehlke, county sheriff past nine years, enters farm implement business here. . . . New law requires English language only for all schools. . . . Mary Bolton, Plainview girl, returns from France where she has managed the Grenoble Orphanage during war. . . . Red Cross issues orders to stop knitting. . . . Commercial course installed in local school. . . . Miss Amy French, teacher and school superintendent 30 years, retires. Graduated from Plainview High School in 1878, she received her degree from the U of M through home study while teaching rural and elementary school here. . . . Michael V. Foley purchases furniture and funeral business of A. E. Becker. . . . Residents hold "Wake Up" meeting at City Hall in interest of better streets and roads.

1920 A. C. Woodcock opens new oil station and bulk plant. . . . Henry Nedreelow purchases Donaldson Jewelry. . . . Odd Fellows buy Oliverson block. . . . Charles Posz and A. E. Becker offer the Cleveland car. . . . Farm Bureau to continue, R. W. Bennett of Menomonie named agent. . . . You have tried the best, now try the wurst. Nick's Market. (Adv). . . . Summer commercial school opens, ten-week course offered for \$25. . . . Plainview gains from 1175 to 1370 in population in last decade. . . . Garden Theatre sold to Floyd Johnson of Superior, vaudeville planned. . . . Over 1,000 persons crowd fairgrounds for motorcycle, auto race and auto polo by Dover Club. . . . Henry Hart and Leonard McGeough have purchased the Fisher lunchroom. . . . Plainview Parents and Teachers Club formed "for home, for school, for country". Mrs. E. A. French named president. . . . The 800-page county history in preparation over two years to be issued



The Koenig Staff

Among them: Bud McFarlin, Ole Johnson, Mrs. Rose Burns, Mrs. Leslie Smith, Elizabeth Welp, Virginia Davey and Mrs. Floyd Bennett. Who else?

soon. . . . Commonwealth Utilities ask rate raise. . . . J. H. Eggers and R. F. Mulcahy install bowling alleys in Mulcahy Bldg.

1921 Fair association collects \$2,500 rain insurance on 1920 Fair. . . . Richard Ullen joins H. R. Gray in garage business. . . . Lakeside Packing Company of Manitowoc buys Watertown Canning plant here, asks guarantee of 350 acres corn. . . . Plainview Oil Co. buys Herron lot on corner Washington and Mechanic Streets, to erect service station. . . . Plainview's first Commercial graduate, Loretta Drews, accepts position with J. R. Watkins Company at Winona. . . . Dr. T. J. Moore joins brother in dental practice at Rochester. Dr. Earl Carpenter comes home to take over Dr. Moore's practice here. . . . Farm laborer dies from effects of moonshine.

1922 Governor names G. H. Dickman county chairman to head Russian relief drive. . . . Woodcock & Son sell seedhouse to H. H. Eggers & Son. *Editor recalls building was Plainview's first "elevator" when the Wilcox General Store did extensive grain buying.* . . . Mail service established from Kellogg to Plainview and Elgin.

1923 Plainview Coop Creamery Assn. purchases French property, block east of present location, for new creamery site. \$21,000 building to be completed before end of year. . . . Christgau & Douglas purchase Bolton Drug from Miller and John Bolton, sons of T. G. Bolton, pioneer druggist. . . . Local store raided by burglars. Dickman & Co. suffer heavy loss, over 600 suits and



Watertown Canning Company—1916

September, 1918: Watertown factory straining every fibre to produce war quota. Plant operating 16 hours a day, eight husking machines in operation, have hit peak output of 36,000 cases canned and made ready for shipment in one day.

overcoats taken, valued at over \$20,000. . . . Dickman loot found in cottages near St. Paul ten days after robbery. Several hundred suits and overcoats recovered. . . . Lyceum course again proves great attraction.

1924 Schad Mercantile stock sold to Plainview Mercantile Co., Aaron Segal to manage. E. H. Lindsey will continue proprietorship of furniture and funeral departments. . . . Black Face Minstrels stage benefit at Six Oaks for Plainview Community Chorus. . . . Plainview Public School razed by fire February 12. All records and equipment totally destroyed. Faulty wiring blamed for worst fire in Plainview's history. . . . Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Reiter celebrate 60th wedding anniversary, four generations attend. . . . \$100,000 bond issue approved April 11 to help finance construction of new school building. \$50,000 insurance available. . . . Band of Sioux to be attraction at Fair. . . . Rain and hail ruin corn acreage. . . . Elba Creamery destroyed by fire. . . . Dickman robbery gang apprehended in Twin Cities. . . . Motor vehicles in Minnesota total 500,000, gas tax law to be passed soon.

1925 Krause's Market purchased by Hahn & Anderson, to be known as City Market. . . . School opens in new building January 9, work begins transferring equipment from churches. . . . Rep. B. C. Fisk named chairman of Crime Committee. . . . Arthur Wempner organizes Izaak Walton League, Dr. Smith named president. . . . State Banking Examiners take over Sylvester Bank and commence liquidation of assets for benefit of depositors (March 3). Area stunned by irregularities and disappearance of E. L. Sylvester. . . . Weikel Bros. return to meat business, open market in Plainview Mercantile block. . . . Senator Carley frames Bill asking bonding of bank officials. . . . Plainview Community Club holds meeting, drafts resolution asking State Security Commission to grant new bank charter to W. R. Zabel, former Plainview resident. . . . New school building dedicated May 22. . . . Beaver and Elba marooned in heaviest June flood on record. Many local people visit Hayfield cyclone area. . . . W. R. Zabel to open Peoples State Bank of Plainview June 29 with temporary quarters in Odd Fellows Building. . . . Both Lakeside Packing Co. and Pepin Pickling

Co. working 24-hour schedule to handle pickle crop. . . . Earl and Glen Harrington of Dakota, Minnesota and Ladysmith, Wisconsin purchase Ford agency from Gray & Ullen, new firm named Harrington Motor Co. . . . H. R. Gray to erect modern filling station on Broadway across from Reiter Machinery. . . . Wabasha County Holstein Breeders Assn. organized with John Dubbels, W. F. Lamprecht and L. M. Schneider officers. . . . Interstate Power rebuild lines from Dover to Plainview.

1926 Juvenile Band being organized with lads age 8 to 12. Warren Woodcock, Elmer Johnson, Henry Gray and George Lutz undertake project. . . . Frank Schad takes over former business block operated by Plainview Mercantile last two years. . . . Local boy makes big strides in insurance game, Lyle Buckingham writes million-dollar policy for Mayo Clinic. . . . Bateman completes summer's supply of ice, 422 tons stored, all crystal cakes 20" thick. . . . Peoples State Bank moves into newly remodeled location on post office corner. . . . Fred Klampe leases Opera House, installs two projection machines. . . . Junior Travelers Club organized, Bernice Weigel president. . . . Plainview Coop Creamery produces 500,000 pounds of butter in previous year. . . . Highway 42 cleared after month's block. . . . Lakeside Packing contracts 450 acres peas, 550 acres corn, 100 acres cucumbers. . . . Plainview High stages first physical training demonstration. . . . Mr. Huber, owner of the Gem Theatre, installs another projection machine. . . . Dr. E. A. French forced to discontinue practice after 20 years, plans to settle in West. Dr. William Loney of Minneapolis to take over practice. . . . H. E. Binder sells variety store to W. E. Bates, moves grocery department next door to building vacated by Peoples State Bank. . . . M. V. Foley and E. H. Lindsey, both well-known local furniture men and undertakers, form partnership under name of Foley & Lindsey. . . . Freight shipments show big increase here. . . . Interstate Power extends lines to connect more farm homes. . . . Alfred Burkhardt admitted to bar, opens law office in Schad block. . . . Big Fall Festival sponsored by Plainview Merchants, Governor Christianson delivers address.



Our First Boys' Band—Forerunner to Plainview School Band

First Row: 1 and 2 unidentified, Howard Johnson, George Herron, Billy Nettekoven (toy trumpet), Kenneth Nunamaker, Elmer Nienow, George Fisk, Clayton Boie, Warren Woodcock. Second Row: Millard Boie, Orland Johnson, Freddie Mason, Arvid Johnson, Orville Nedrelow, Kenneth Goetz, Franklin Washburn. Third Row: Elmer Johnson, Norman King, Cecil Herron, Everett Goetz, Donald Dewitt, John Keough, Leslie Lance, Stanley Allen, Ralph Schuler, Henry Gray. Top Row: Roscoe Carpenter, John Boehlke, Ray Nunamaker, Kermit Hassig, Maynard Gray, William Schultz Rudolph Mason, Lester Boehlke, Bruce Peck.

THE ROARING TWENTIES passed the midway mark with the Plainview business directory keeping pace:

A. G. Ames, Silos
 Will Anderson Home Delivery Service
 Henry Appel, Wagon & Woodworking Shop
 M. M. Appel, Millinery
 T. A. Askew, Dry Goods & Ready-to-Wear
 Bateman Produce, E. L. Bateman, S. M. Purvis
 A. E. Becker, Insurance
 H. E. Binder Grocery & Variety Store
 Julius Boehlke, Farm Implements
 Botsford Lumber Company, John Keough, Mgr.
 James A. Carley, Attorney
 Carpenter-Goetz Hardware Company
 Dr. E. R. Carpenter, Dentist
 George E. Christenson Dray
 Christgau & Douglass Drugs
 City Market, Hahn & Anderson
 R. E. Cobb Produce
 George Dickman & Co., Mens' Clothiers
 George Duerre Hardware
 W. G. Edwards Machine Shop
 Eggers Seed House
 H. H. Eggers Grocery, Creamery
 J. H. Eggers & Son, Electrical Supplies
 Mike Ellringer, Silos
 Erding Barber Shop
 First National Bank, J. I. Vermilya, President
 M. V. Foley, Furniture and Funerals
 George F. Foreman, Salvage
 H. I. Fowler, Tailor and Drycleaning
 Dr. E. A. French, Physician and Surgeon
 Gem Theatre, Gardner Colby, Manager
 Goetz Boot Shop, E. A. Goetz, Prop.
 Goetz Pool Parlor, Wm. Goetz, Prop.
 Green & Hardy, Harness and Leather Shop
 Greenwood Prairie Mill, B. F. Nichols, Prop.
 Greenwood Prairie Telephone Company, J. A. Carley, Mgr.
 L. J. Hardtke, Blacksmith
 Harrington Motor Co., Ford Sales and Service
 Herron Bros., Chevrolet and Buick
 Holst & Johnson Trucking Service
 R. R. Jacobs Restaurant
 August F. Johnson Machinery

R. E. Jones & Co. Elevator, John L. Boehlke, Mgr.
 Charles Judge Confectionery
 Kroening & Schuchard Dray Line
 August Kruger, Shoemaker
 Lakeside Packing Company
 Lehnertz Woodworking and Tin Shop
 E. H. Lindsey, Furniture and Funerals
 George Lutz Photo Studio
 S. S. Lyons, Attorney
 Dr. C. M. MacKenzie, Osteopathic Physician & Surgeon
 Dr. F. M. McClure, Veterinary
 M. J. Manchester Coal
 Ma's Cafe, "Pa" and "Ma" Hamm
 Henry Nedrelow Jewelry
 Nick's Market, H. H. Nichols, Prop.
 H. K. Oliverson General Store
 Peoples State Bank, W. R. Zabel, President
 Pepin Pickling Company, L. C. LaFrance, President
 Franz Peters Restaurant
 Plainview Bakery, Fred Nettekoven, Prop.
 Plainview Cooperative Creamery
 Plainview Harness Shop, A. A. Thielke, Prop.
 Plainview Hotel, Frank Nettekoven, Prop.
 Plainview Mercantile Co., A. Segal, Mgr.
 Plainview News, W. G. Mack, Publisher
 Plainview Oil Co., A. C. Woodcock, President
 Plainview Opera House
 Plein Auto Company, George Plein, Prop.
 Charles Posz, Tires
 A. D. Posz Produce
 J. W. Reifkogel & Sons, Harness Shop
 H. L. Reiter Machinery
 Richmond Elevator, C. E. Richmond, Prop.
 B. E. Rohweder, Rexall Drugs
 Siebert Bros. Machine Shop
 Dr. E. E. Smith, Dentist
 Dr. J. A. Slocumb, Physician and Surgeon
 Standard Service Station, H. R. Gray, Prop.
 Ben Stephans Transfer
 W. J. Stephans Custom Hatchery
 Frank Taylor Barbershop
 G. A. Walker Livery
 F. J. Waters, Stock Buyer
 Weikel Bros. Meat Market
 N. Weimerskirch, Tailor and Drycleaning
 Dr. W. H. Whitcomb, Veterinary
 White Star Restaurant



Plainview Municipal Band

A handsome advertisement for Plainview in "the Roaring Twenties". Seated: Fred Weikel, Art Becker, Herman Siebert, Charlie Schneider, Fred Nettekoven, Ralph Schwanbeck. Second row: Charles Cook, Wm. Goetz, Edward Cook, Laird Reiter, (Director), Elmer Johnson, Earl Zabel. Third row: Dale Lehnertz, John Hardtke, Malcolm Smiley. Top row: Ray Eggers, Bertel Pehrson, Franklin Glaesmer, Edwin Glaesmer.

1927 Charles Donaldson displays employment contract between his great grandfather and George Washington at Old Settlers gathering. . . . Interstate Power secures former Legion playground for new sub-station site. . . . Corrine Girard opens beauty shop over Taylor's Barber Shop. . . . Banking Department pays second dividend on Sylvester bank, totaling 30% to date. . . . Legion Drum Corps sponsors huge indoor circus, proceeds to buy uniforms. . . . "Womanless Wedding" plays to full house with Ed Lindsey as Charlie Chaplin and Pete Petit and Dwight Washburn as bride and groom. . . . Louis Thomas of Owatonna takes over Lutz Photo Studio. . . . Over 7,000 people attend 4th of July celebration here. Legion Drum Corps leads parade with Plainview Municipal Band and Boys' Band. . . . Accommodations finally provided at Wabasha so women may now serve as jurors in county. . . . Steve Thompson's Mississippi Red Caps and Billy's Vagabonds combine, will be billed as Red Caps. . . . Plainview host to famous Rochester Park Band. . . . Foley & Lindsey establish ambulance service.

1928 Martin Grove, last GAR member, dies in South Dakota. . . . Agitation for sewer system prompts meeting, cost to property owners estimated at \$97,000, bonds not needed. Engineer presents completed plans to council. . . . Made Vermilya and Iley Steinke, together with J. J. Herron, Dr. Tom Moore and others, open first commercial airport at Rochester, just west of St. Marys. . . . Christgau & Douglass buy Rohweder Rexall Drug, move to Rohweder location next to post office. . . . Plein Auto takes over Dodge agency. . . . George Dickman honored for outstanding service to community. History recounted, started on Main Street in 1883 as a clerk for Wm. Koenig at \$15 a month. . . .

Local trout streams rated tops this year. . . . Fred Nettekoven opens new bakery in building vacated by Christgau & Douglass. . . . Vermilya Bros. turn out three tons of lime per hour in new plant. . . . Sad news for coon hunters, dogs barred, hunting after dark illegal. . . . Schoolgrounds landscaped, 261 plants set out in front lawn. . . . Plainview's new fire truck makes maiden run to Elgin to Dushek Hardware fire. . . . Irl Richmond takes over management of Richmond Elevator due to father's illness. . . . Iley Steinke of Rochester Airways drops 100 loaves of bread over Plainview in bread promotion stunt. Localites hope brick manufacturers don't adopt scheme. . . . Dr. Loney joins Clinic staff; Dr. Wm. B. Stryker moves into Loney home and office quarters. . . . Herron Chevrolet to build garage on lots west of Grand Theater.

1929 William Carter buys Gem Theater from Paul Huber, commences extensive improvement. . . . Earl Lehnertz purchases old opera house from E. W. Harrington, to remodel for garage. Laird Reiter, Hudson-Essex dealer, to use front of building for car display. *Fast becoming auto row, isn't it?* . . . Lakeside to build new plant 75x200, to handle increased acreage. . . . Hollandale men come here to see new onion transplanting machine tested by Charles Posz for Michigan inventor. . . . Lions Club organizes with Dr. Slocumb, George Vermilya and John Keough charter officers. . . . Malcolm Smiley accepts coaching position at Johnson High in St. Paul, will lead Boys' Band this year. . . . 72 hounds entered in Izaak Walton Field meet. . . . John Horn's diary found, tells of Grange picnic at Safford's Grove on July 4, 1874. Total family expenditure for the day was \$1.30 for lemonade, ice



Left to right:

Mariam Rohweder
Alma Thielke
Marguerite Bates
Mabel Wood
Alice Walker
Helen Richmond (coach)
Beryl Krause
Elizabeth Green
Nina Steinke
Alice Austin

The Bloomer Girls' Basketball Team Who Went Four Years Without Defeat

cream, candy and nuts. . . . H. C. Donaker of Owatonna purchases Eggers Grocery. Eggers & Son will continue produce house north of store. . . . Five new local 4-H clubs receive charters under leadership of Jay Seymour, new ag instructor and leader. . . . Businessmen and Legion sponsor 90-horsepower July 4th celebration. Greenwood Prairie Farmers Club wins grand prize on float. . . . More than 1,000 people visit William Meyer farm to see new combine in operation. Two sons operate 400 acres with only one light team of horses, all work mechanized. . . . Ed Peters of Rochester buys Iris Cafe, will also manufacture candy. . . . L. A. Mundt establishes Self-Serv Grocery here. . . . Harrington Motor Co. incorporates under name of Harrington-Wood Motor Co. Howard Wood takes interest, Earl Harrington to retire from firm. . . . Stephan Sisters of Ada open millinery in Peters Building. . . . Lakeside Packing drills own well, new tile and concrete plant almost completed, seeks contracts for 2400 acres. . . . Posz Produce buys storage house at Dodge Center. Company now shipping to nationwide market under "Garden Spot of Minnesota" trademark. . . . Botsford Lumber has big job recovering fencing and tile after "typical Halloween". . . . Carter installs "Talkie" at Gem. . . . Lions to make Plainview "Christmas City", sponsor home decoration contest.

1930 Interstate doubles highline capacity to serve Lakeside. . . . Lions Club host to 70 4-H members at achievement banquet. . . . Old landmark, Potsdam windpowered mill, being torn down. . . . Izaak Walton League builds trout pond at George Graff farm on Beaver Creek, hires warden to patrol streams. . . . Mrs. George Walker buys Peters Cafe, formerly catered for banquets and weddings. . . . Farmers Store to open in Schad building. . . . Plainview hosts

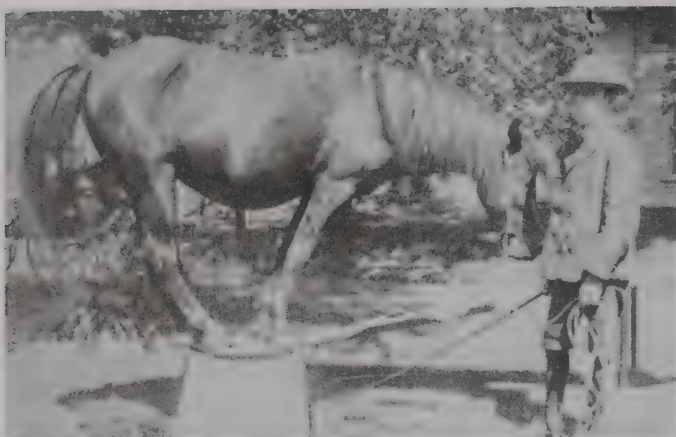
to American Legion First District convention. Curtis-Robbin plane given away, over 10,000 people attend two-day session. Local 4-H Club wins first prize on 65-foot float. . . . Harry Belland opens tailor shop in Foreman Building. . . . Plainview 4-H Club named largest in Minnesota. Over 300 attend judging at Ed Schultz farm. . . . Harringtons purchase First National Bank stock from Vermilya family. Earl Harrington to head bank, will move his family here immediately from Dakota, Minnesota.

1931 Carley announces sale of Greenwood Prairie phone company to Pioneer Telephone Co. of Waconia. This branch to be named Wabasha County Telephone Co. with G. M. Dwelle as manager. . . . Victor Hassig entertains Old Settlers with fiddler's concert. . . . Peoples Cooperative Oil Association started, \$6,250 stock sold to local people this month. . . . Local ag student, Claire Hunter, receives recognition for producing "double crossed" corn. . . . Local mail service changed to bus. . . . Mike Foley and George Dickman represent Plainview at hearing to ask betterment of Highway 42, are guaranteed reconstruction and oiling. . . . Henry Kranz and Elmer Feldbrugge bring in 22-inch trout for opening day record. . . . "Band Mothers Club" organized to assist Mr. Pehrson in promotion of school band. . . . County banks agree to finance purchase of purebred herd sires throughout county, Emil Boie heading campaign. . . . Plainview High receives highest rating in state on Farm Practice Work. . . . New veins of umber ore found on Majerus farm on Fisher Hill. Buildings painted in 1928 with paint made from ore still in excellent shape. . . . Plainview Municipal Band gives concert on KSTP. . . . A. J. Erding, manager of Pepin Pickling plant here, reports taking in 14 ton per day, plant working 24-hour schedule. . . .



The End of Another Good Onion Year

When everyone dressed silly and gathered in the onion storage house at the old Waterman place after the crop was sold. Behind their disguise Buzz Richmond found Dr. and Mrs. E. E. Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Tom Moore, and Messrs. and Meses. Harry Smith, James Carley, John Keough, Charles Richmond, Henry Binder, Louis Sundquist, Clarence Waterman, Herman Stephan, A. A. Marshall, M. J. Manchester, Fred Petrich, A. S. Kennedy, Julius Boehlke, Robert Smith, Harry Austin, John Simon, William Yandon, William Mack, and J. Smith. Which leaves 14 more faces for you to name.



The Woodcock Pony

In the Woodcock backyard where the school kids spent their noon hour for years watching her perform. She also pulled the first horse-drawn lawn mower in the Greenwood cemetery. She died in 1930 at the age of 34.

1932 Greenwood Prairie Mill installs equipment to again grind flour per B. F. Nichols, manager. Frank Nettekoven, former miller for many years, recalls when they ground 70 barrels a day. . . . Local inventor, Fred Goetz, received patent for machine to cut and windrow onions. . . . Last covered bridge in the state, 63 years old, removed at Zumbrota. . . . Governor Olson dedicates Whitewater Game Refuge at annual Izaak Walton field trial. . . . L. T. Austin of Osseo opens meat department in Mundi's Self-Serv store. . . . Peoples Coop buy property for new station. . . . Alfred Burkhardt named county chairman of Izaak Walton committee to fight Mississippi River pollution.

1933 Commercial Club forms committee, enlists aid of Congressmen Fisk, Richardson and Costello to secure reduction in electric rates and auto tax. . . . Bank holiday causes little repercussion, both local banks "sound", merchants stage street celebration. . . . Legalized beer to commence flowing in Plainview, four establishments seek licenses. . . . 200 Sioux and Chippewa take part in Diamond Jubilee pageant at Whitewater State Park. . . . Fourteen businesses join NRA movement. . . . Plainview News to give \$2,500 in prizes in circulation campaign. . . . Postal Telegraph opens station here in Manchester residence. . . . 69 jackrabbits, 31 cottontails, 14 hawks, one owl bagged

in annual "rabbit hunt".

1934 City Dads vote to operate municipal liquor store. . . . A. E. Becker buys Goetz interest in Carpenter-Goetz Hardware, new firm to be known as Plainview Hardware. . . . FFA chapter formed by Carlton Nelson. . . . Dr. W. A. Allen, Plainview physician 1865-72, who came west for his health, celebrates 100th birthday in Rochester, oldest practicing physician in U. S. . . . Merchants count noses, 2500 attend Saturday night band concert. . . . Plainview school band to play for Roosevelt welcome at Wabasha. . . . N. Langum, representing Lanesboro Produce Company, to open station here. . . . Wabasha County Fair offers three all-expense tours to World Fair in Chicago. . . . Harold Boyd purchases Klatt barbershop. . . . C. J. Donaldson home destroyed by fire. . . . Plainview Commercial Club cooks 1,000 pounds sauerkraut for Golden Rule Day. All churches hold services giving thanks for good harvest year.

1935 New fire siren mounted on water tower. . . . Dr. Stryker appointed to U. S. Medical Corps. Dr. H. T. Sherman of Echo, Minnesota, takes over Dr. Stryker's practice. . . . Thermometers drop to 40 below, heavy snow blocks all roads. . . . James Liddells entertain 60 snowbound dancers at slumber party, marooned on way home from Greenwood dance. . . . Bowling alleys moved from Mulcahy building to school basement. . . . Plainview-Elgin American Legion Post honored for outstanding work in membership drive, George Baker reelected president. . . . Garden Club joins state society, selects petunia as city flower. . . . Newly formed Plainview Soil Conservation Assn. succeeds in getting CCC camp for Plainview. . . . State RRC to crush lime on county project at three quarries including Davis quarry on Whitewater. . . . Commercial Club entertains 19th Century Mainstreeters. Honored guests were Dr. J. A. Slocumb, George H. Dickman, W. G. Mack, Mark Jenks, A. C. Woodcock, M. J. Manchester, J. H. Eggers, Jr., Fred Weikel, T. A. Askew, H. K. Oliverson, Wm. Reifkogel, George Duerre, M. T. Duerre, James Carley, A. J. Erding, T. J. Burton, and Herman Schwantz. The men recalled how the fire protection in 1890 was a 30-barrel tank at a well on the school grounds and how they formed a bucket brigade to fight a fire. . . . Reduced freight rates to Twin Cities



Lakeside Packing Company, Plant 4

will save Plainview shippers \$2,000 a year. . . . 202 CCC men arrive on special train. Billeted on Fairgrounds until permanent site completed on Weigel estate near county garage. . . . Gem Theatre to double capacity in new building. Bateman & Purvis building being wrecked, new theater to occupy both lots. . . . 1,500 attend first annual county-wide Farm Bureau picnic here. . . . CCC boys plant 70,000 trees, build 22 check dams. . . . Lakeside turns out 50,000 cases during pea pack. . . . Mass meeting held to discuss sewage system, plan voted down. . . . 935 farmers in county receive corn-hog checks totaling \$30,750. . . . Arthur King Grocery joins Clover Farm group. . . . First WPA project started here, Henry Larocque to supervise crew in rebuilding of Appel Hill road. WPA to serve school hot lunches. . . . Safe-cracker gets \$200 at Richmond Elevator, Hammond bank robbed of \$3,500.

1936 H. K. Oliverson ends 53 years on Main Street, Ladies Ready-to-wear sold to Edward Witchy, to open as Federated Store. . . . Polly's Beauty Shop opens over Plainview Hardware. . . . C. C. Gallagher approved as Plainview postmaster. . . . G. H. Borne-man resigns as superintendent of schools, to take Olivia position. S. L. Johnson who has spent last nine years at Mabel hired to succeed him. . . . Arnold Walch takes over Lehnertz garage, to handle Dodge-Plymouth agency. . . . S. E. Hodges of Spooner opens restaurant in remodeled laundry building on East Broadway. . . . Foley & Lindsey move into new location, new chapel largest in this area. . . . Dr. D. G. Mahle arrives from St. Paul to take over practice purchased from Dr. Stryker. . . . 1,600 county farmers participate in 15 million soil conservation grant. . . . Arthur Holst opens grocery in Posz building. . . . Social Security forms received by 165 local "employees" to be covered when Act goes into effect January 1.

1937 Four residences to be moved for new highway, largest state project of year. . . . Nigger Dan, once familiar figure on Plainview streets, dies at county farm, reported to be 110 years old, worked as farm-hand, "fiddled" at home dances. . . . Bernie Bierman to present football letters at Commercial Club banquet.



The Plainview CCC Camp—1935-1939

. . . . Harold Oliverson makes business out of wood-craft hobby, has customers all over world including Mexico, China, Japan, Palestine. . . . Henry Welti's big grey stallion landed "clear up to his ears" in abandoned cesspool back of Askew store, garage wrecker extricates him. . . . Greenwood Prairie Burial Assn. holds third annual meeting, praises Foley & Lindsey connection, discontinues Elgin funeral home. . . . Fred Nettekoven takes over proprietorship of Hotel Plainview operated by his father since 1912. . . . Heron Brothers sell garage to two employees, Ed Appel and LeRoy Haimes. . . . Local Methodist minister, Rev. Guse, two others drown at Whitman Dam on fishing trip. . . . Buses to transport rural pupils to high school here. County's rural schools hit by lack of teachers, still short six to complete staff of 92. . . . Honey Ridge-Fisher Hill watershed to be next CCC erosion project. . . . First PHS homecoming parade and pepfest liven Main Street. . . . Frank B. Kellogg, national figure, graduate of Elgin High and hero of the Plainview-Elgin RR bond fight, dies at St. Paul. . . . Winona photographer buys Thomas studio. Frank Mrachek to open March Studio first of year.

1938 PHS holds first annual Maroon & Gold Ball. . . . KROC now broadcasting "Plainview News and Views" each Tuesday noon. . . . Grace McBride opens Beauty Box. . . . Plainview Hotel remodels space for Nedrelow Jewelry and new bakery salesroom, bakery moved to rear. . . . REA applications promoted at meeting here. Service seems assured with more than



Memories—Sweet and Cool



The Anderson Delivery Wagon

One of Plainview's fondest memories will always be of the Anderson Delivery which covered the same residential route for most of our stores twice a day. Many children cried when Mr. Will Anderson retired himself and his horses in 1950 after 34 years at the reins. He purchased his first rig and route from Dan McFarlin in 1916.

150 farms signed up. . . . Commercial Club employs Pehrson to direct summer band. . . . Mayor Becker praises Lakeside as boon to Plainview; pushes sewage plant, seeks PWA grant, total cost estimated at \$400,000. . . . Cohen's Economy Store takes over west half of Farmer's Store. . . . March Studio moving from Koenig block to Vermilya Building. Photo studio has occupied same space since Koenig block built in 1899. . . . Dr. R. A. Glabe, native of Oronoco, to practice with Dr. Slocumb who is still confined to his home since his recent illness. . . . Huge crowd turns out in wet snow to watch Ray Ohm husk 22 bushel in 80 minutes to win county's annual cornhusking contest at James Christison farm.

1939 Frank McGeough resigns as scoutmaster



Right: The judges ponder where to pin the purple ribbon in 4-H Beef Division. Same Fair, same year.

after four years, Alton Bergh takes over. Troop has become one of most active in district. . . . CCC reports 4,483 acres contoured in area. . . . E. C. Koenig purchases hatchery and locker plant from Farmers Wholesale which has been managed for several years by A. J. Erding. . . . Dr. L. F. Race of Minneapolis opens dental office in Farmers Store building. . . . Commercial Club buys site for athletic park from Ritter estate. Space being planned for football field, baseball diamond, tennis courts, swimming pool and bathhouse. . . . C. D. Nelson resigns as county agent to enter insurance field. . . . Interstate Power opens office and store in hotel lobby, Willa Boehlke to be in charge. . . . A. F. Ellinghysen opens new Skelly station west of creamery. . . . Plainview Mutual Fire Insurance Company holds golden jubilee. . . . Bruce Oxtan resigns as ag instructor to take over Plainview Feed Mill. . . . Miss Mary Lahey retires after 34 years on Plainview faculty. . . . Goetz Boot Shop sponsors appearance of world's tallest man, 8'8" who wears size 19 shoe. LeRoy Haimes, Plainview's tallest at 6'6", can't retrieve dollar from his head. . . . Highway Dept. reports new Highway 42 cost \$28,000 per mile. . . . JC's entertain 2,500 at first Lakeside fete. . . . Elmer Koepsell buys Gamble Store from Art Milbrandt. . . . New "recreation center" to open. Harlan Holzer and Pat Griffin buy Koenig building, start remodeling for bowling alleys and roller rink. . . . Walker Cafe sold to Erwin Luhmann of Lewiston. . . . Local CCC's fight Fairwater forest fire.

1940 Mrs. Minnie O'Connell, 82, daughter of pioneer harnessmaker, Julius Fricke, dies of burns when clothing catches fire. . . . Junior Chamber gives

The 1937 Wabasha County Fair

4-Hers promenade with their dairy and beef exhibits in front of grandstand at the old Plainview Fair Grounds.



\$100 to athletic field lighting fund. . . . Dr. F. M. McClure, veterinarian here 30 years, dies at Mudbadden. . . . Alton Bergh, who has been practicing here with Senator Carley, leaves to start practice in St. Charles. . . . Famous Reifkogel window display horse to be sold at auction. . . . George H. Dickman & Co. begins closing-out sale after 40 years as men's clothiers. . . . Dr. J. L. Cavanaugh, native of Kansas, opens veterinary practice here. . . . Peculiar subsoil formation causing delays in sewer project. . . . Herbert Schwantz forms Ruled Handle Co., produces patented hammer handles. . . . Fire severely damages Recreation Center, three departments battle blaze five hours. . . . Council signs 15-year power franchise with Interstate. . . . Norman Heinen, North Dakota man, buys Federated Store from Witschy. . . . Gil and Clarence Timm open Timm's Clothing in Dickman location. . . . Secretary Henry Wallace visits Plainview. T. C. Richardson, national ag committeeman, arranges tour. . . . Plainview News purchases Elgin Monitor from Vincent Holton who has been editor 35 years. . . . Plainview Public School named one of six pilot schools in state. . . . Plainview Oil Company repurchases Eggers Seed House. . . . New recreation center and store building nearing completion. Three businesses already lease space, Mabel Wood for the TipTop Cafe, Jack Magnusen's Men's Shop and Clarence Knutson's IGA grocery. . . . Blitzkrieg storm hits area, 15 duck hunters killed.

1941 Fair Board dissolved, favor promotion of 4-H work on larger scale rather than advancement of county fair as such. . . . Mike Leonard appointed postmaster to succeed C. C. Gallagher. . . . Ladies Shoppe to have grand opening, managed by Mrs. Clarence Timm. . . . Plainview Flying Club formed by Dr. Glabe, Ted Zabel, John and Clarissa Mulligan, Jay LaRocque and Father Frisch. They say the only dangerous thing is the auto trip to Rochester airport so have purchased plane and plan airport on Ed Schultz farm. . . . Area mourns death of Dr. J. A. Slocumb, beloved family doctor and friend since 1895. . . . Sewage disposal plant now in operation after much delay, total cost \$400,000. . . . Plainview CCC camp ordered closed.

1942 Travelers Club receive certificate from U. S.



A. C. Woodcock—Hobby: Woodcarving

Another townsman whose hobby has been meat for magazine feature writers.

Forest Service for planting an acre of trees in honor of Miss Amy R. French, first Travelers president and school superintendent many years. . . . Dean Montgomery receives Gugenheim award. . . . CCC buildings removed for shipment to Alaska. . . . Plainview goes to war, air raid warning inaugurated, 149 volunteer blood for soldiers.

Editor's Note: To respect the wishes of many of our families who gave "the utmost", we have passed over our war history. Plainview was a serious town during the war years. Our honor roll was long, and our Gold Stars many.

1943 69 register in first 18-year old county draft registration. . . . 36 women complete Red Cross home nursing course under Mmes. Don Harrington and Loren Race. . . . \$103,795 pledged in second War Bond drive. . . . Businessmen out to help farmers in harvest, shock over 600 acres of grain. . . . J. G. Dill Co. purchase Plainview Mill from Bruce Oxtom. . . . Leo Hassler takes over Red Owl Store. . . . Clarence Cook purchases Plainview Hardware.



First Annual F.F.A. Parents and Sons Banquet—1940

1944 Senior Class dedicates service flag, 213 stars on honor roll, Lt. Charles Fisk, USN, speaker. . . . Leo Reagan of LeRoy buys Ford garage from Milton Vollenweider. . . . Landmarks disappear. Greenwood Prairie Roller Mill torn down. Also livery barn built by Ezra Feller in 1878 which was stage and mail headquarters for years. Steffen Implement wrecks old Richmond Building, will rebuild on site. . . . 4-H Club to be revived, Bruce Oxton, ag instructor, to assist. . . . Langum Produce ships carload of wool, Boston buyers rate Plainview top wool area. . . . Plainview enters Sixth war loan drive. Theater sells bonds instead of tickets as admission to launch drive.

1945 Plainview Produce Co. formed, elect O. W. Schultz president, to take over Richmond elevator building, Art Wempner appointed manager. Company to specialize in raising and feeding of turkeys, hope to have jobs waiting for returning veterans. . . . Business buildings change hands. Boehlke Implement Co. buys Buckingham property on West Broadway. . . . Koepsell Hardware, Leonard Grocery and Leo Hassler purchase buildings they occupy. Legion Post sells fairgrounds pavilion to Plainview Produce. . . . 50 war prisoners stationed at Whitewater camp to work at Lakeside. . . . Frank Kruger appointed to Farm Security Commission. . . . Plainview joins in victory celebrations. . . . County commissioners employ Wallace Richardson as first veteran service officer. . . . August Johnson builds new implement shop on Washington Street. . . . Legion Post buys Weikel property on Water Street as site for memorial auditorium. . . . Boehlke Implement Co. reincorporated under name of Schultz Implement Company with Ed J. Schultz presi-

dent. New firm will have stores in Plainview and St. Charles.

1946 447 voters favor municipal light plant but lose referendum to minority group. . . . Plainview Dairy formed by Floyd Nienow and Edwin Schultz, take over Fisk & Klassen Dairy, plan new building on Washington St. . . . The Plainview News, operated by some member of the Mack family for 47 years, taken over by R. J. Mack as sole owner. . . . Leo Stephan and Albert Goetz, veteran employees of State Highway Department, receive safe driving awards. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Walch in fishing party of six marooned on uninhabited Canadian island for 24 hours during sleet storm, canoe used for shelter. . . . Plainview Creamery expansion in hands of architects, 5,500 feet additional floor space needed. . . . American Legion initiates 113 new World War II members at public ceremonies. . . . New service garage being constructed on East Broadway by Vern Wentworth. . . . Travelers Club Flower Show outstanding event of the year, over 400 exhibits. . . . Cedric Adams gives noontime broadcast from auditorium during annual Fall Festival. . . . Neil Lance receives permit to build dry cleaning plant.

1947 Seven business places wiped out by early morning fire February 13. Elgin and Rochester companies called to battle flames, same corner hit seven years ago when old Koenig block destroyed. (See story and pictures). . . . Robert Dunlap, attorney, native of St. Paul, locates here as associate of A. A. Burkhardt. . . . Leo Regan buys lot where Marshall Wells store stood. . . . Jack Magnussen purchases Duerre Hardware building, to reopen Mens' Shop. . . . 58 dogs from Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota entered in



MODERN KNIGHTS

Knighthood bloomed again in 1948 when St. Paul's Carnival royalty bestowed more than the usual festivity to our annual Fall Festival. Assuming the proper position but not quite the proper attitude are George Duerre, William Carter, Sr., Frank Taylor and Al Wild (manager of Lakeside's Plainview plant). At extreme left, standing, is Robert Dunlap, our present Senator.

Plainview Field & Stream trials. . . . Joe Jadny purchases Thielke Harness Shop. . . . Fire Department purchases new mobile rescue unit equipped with resuscitator and inhalator. . . . Romie Gebert breaks ground for new Red & White grocery building on Washington Street on site of pioneer Purvis blacksmith shop. . . . Maurice Cravath starts new building to house Propane gas business. . . . R. L. Woodard opens new bakery. . . . Langum Produce builds new produce station. . . . First National starts work on another addition. . . . Schultz Implement Company plans modern type building. . . . Council gives Youth Center full support, rooms in City Hall to serve as Center. *Looks like 1947 was a busy year for the contractors.*

1948 George Duerre commences closing out sale of hardware stock, celebrates 50th year on Main Street, was president of Minnesota Retail Hardware Assn. many years. . . . Face lifting continues. Christgau & Douglass start extensive remodeling. . . . Dr. Glabe

builds addition to house X-ray and Therapy departments. . . . Louis Mann purchases Timm Clothing, Timms to erect new bowling alleys and restaurant on East Broadway. . . . Mrs. Art Eggers buys Richmond home on Church Street, remodels for rest home. . . . Dr. Robert Feick takes over dental practice of Dr. Loren Race who died suddenly last week. . . . Mabel Wood buys Smith's Cafe, will reopen TipTop Cafe. . . . L. A. Mundt buys Self-Serv Grocery which he has managed since 1927. . . . Plainview Creamery wins third in national butter contest, scores 99.60.

1949 George Rother takes possession of Winters Meat Market. . . . Interstate Power builds new White Way. . . . Dr. Robert Feick, local dentist, killed by lightning at Whitewater Golf Course. . . . AAA to set up 20 storage bins here for surplus corn. . . . Construction starts on new Lakeside Lagoon outlet. . . . Plainview elects first woman mayor, Mrs. Clarence Timm.



December, 1948: Mr. and Mrs. James A. Carley deed 200-acre tract to State of Minnesota. The "old swimming hole" will become part of new state park.

January, 1949: The Boldt family enhance Carley park tract by gift of 20-acre adjoining white pine woodlot.

April, 1949: The Minnesota Legislature, by act of present session, accept park tract, dedicating it as Carley State Park in honor of Senator Carley.



A little bit of the "North Woods" right in our own back yard—did you know it was there? Carley State Park on the Whitewater, of course.



Same Corner Burns Twice—1940 and 1947

The proud old Koenig block, a landmark since 1899, for many years owned by Schad Mercantile and known as the largest department store in the area, burned to the ground in 1940, despite the efforts of all area fire-fighters to save it.

The corner was rebuilt in 1940 by Harlan Holzer and Pat Griffin into four units. It was later sold to Lyle Spooner who operated the bowling alley as well as a tax and accounting office.

On February 13, 1947, fire again struck the ill-fated corner, wiping out seven businesses in this and the two adjoining buildings. The Plainview Fire Department, with the help of the Elgin and Rochester companies, saved the rest of the business district; but Spooner's Recreation and tax office, Mabel Wood's TipTop Cafe, Jack Magnusen's Men's Shop, King's Red and White Grocery, the Marshall-Wells Store and Langum Produce were left "homeless", with each a total loss.

1950 Nelson-Gray install sprinkler irrigation system to utilize Lakeside byproducts. . . . Plainview High sets record, to graduate class of 60. . . . Dr. Charles Slocumb named president of American Rheumatism Association in recognition of his pioneer work in clinical application of Cortisone. . . . Dr. R. E.

Rossi, recent U of M dental graduate, takes over practice of the late Dr. Feick. . . . Holstein breeders ship carload of heifers to New Mexico in national "herd betterment" plan. . . . Thompson Bros. win "tall corn" contest with 13-foot stalk. Plainview Corn Festival to last three days.



"WOMENLESS WEDDING"

Plainview has produced over a dozen Womenless Weddings . . . but this one in 1950 topped them all when "Digger O'Dell" (second from left in front row) went through the audience measuring the odd-sized and out-sized people for caskets. No wonder the town can sponsor a Centennial celebration of this magnitude.

1951 Freddie Goetz, 13, catches 27½" walleye at Whitman's Dam. . . . 300 gather to honor Cyril Grieve, retiring local and county Farm Bureau president who served 19 years. . . . Houses hidden from view by 10-foot snowbanks as Feldbrugge and crew attempt to open streets after storm. Plows breaking on trunk highways. . . . \$79,000 street improvement bonds sold. . . . Footings poured for new Lutheran school by H. M. Kreofsky, contractor. . . . Robert Haley, owner of Pepin Block Co., buys Reed Mills property, to erect new block plant with 1,000 block per day capacity, will employ several full-time workers. . . . 300 deer bagged in area by local hunters. . . . Dominican Convent established, Sisters welcomed on arrival from Switzerland. Convent to conduct music school open to public.

1952 Old Settlers convene in 75th annual meeting, honor pioneer founders. . . . Parallel Parking ordinance goes into effect on Broadway. . . . Leon Ellringer takes over as full-time city police officer. . . . Herbert Feldman resigns as county agent, will manage Plainview Produce Co., replacing Art Wempner who has resigned on account of illness. . . . Senator Carley dies in sleep. State Senate appoints nine members as honorary pallbearers to attend funeral of veteran senator of 29 years standing. . . . Robert Huelskamp and James Harlan purchase Plainview Dairy, change name to H & H Dairy. Glenn Hasse of Waconia to replace Huelskamp as manager of Plainview Coop Creamery. . . . Lindsey sells interest in mortuary and furniture store to Robert Johnson, former Rochester man. Firm to continue as Foley & Johnson. . . . First National Bank celebrates 50th anniversary. . . . 100 4-H leaders meet at Schwantz farm, county achievement day to be held at Plainview. . . . Ground Observer Corps begins skywatch operation. . . . Iowa

Minnesota Farm Institute features Logan Thompson as "Minnesota Farmer". . . . Commercial Club honors W. G. Edwards, 50-year veteran in machine shop and automobile business here. . . . Foley & Johnson build addition, new furniture store front. . . . Movie short made of 54" rattler caught by George Sagissor. . . . Plainview merchants sponsor "Turkey Day", 67 birds given away at dedication of new Main Street improvements. . . . Dunlap wins senate seat to replace the late Senator Carley, resigns as county attorney.

1953 Plainview Creamery to commence cheese manufacture. . . . Peoples State Bank remodels for increased space, plan new face and front for post office building. . . . Businessmen, Travelers Club, Lutheran ladies make tennis courts a reality. . . . Kreofsky begins construction of county garage here. . . . Reiter-Murphy purchase Thorpe Implement. . . . Gem Theater adds panoramic screen, first in southern Minnesota. . . . George Mason buys trucking business, Hormel agency from Johnson Implement Co. . . . 22 rural school districts ask to be included in local consolidation. . . . Judges Finkelberg and Hatfield preside over memorial services for Senator Carley and John R. Foley. . . . School Consolidation Plat approved by Senate. . . . Interstate Power moves into newly remodeled office vacated by Thorpe Implement.

1954 Ralph Edwards develops sidewalk snowplow from old Model A Ford. . . . Over 1,000 served lunch at annual Plainview Creamery meeting. . . . Earl Zabel named to state CROP board. . . . Wabasha County to have police radio system. . . . Ralph Seeman takes over management of J. G. Dill Co. elevator. . . . Fred Gerber, St. Paul attorney, to practice here in Carley offices. . . . Mrs. Harold Lamp becomes member of League of Minnesota Poets by virtue of



1955 Plainview School Band Under Direction of Walter Gludt



PLAINVIEW COOPERATIVE CREAMERY

Left, as it was built in 1923 with two self-serve drive-ins. Right, as it operates with bulk tank service today.



original lyrics and music. . . . Plainview PTA revived, charter signed by 30 members, Herb Feldman named president. . . . Arthur Haack purchases Plainview Bakery, to continue delivery service to neighboring towns. . . . Pioneer Telephone Company begins underground cable work. . . . Patti Welti named Junior finalist in Pillsbury contest, goes to New York City to compete in national bake-off. . . . Early morning fire destroys Steffen Implement building.

1955 Schultz Implement organizes subsidiary, A-A Fertilizer Company, six units purchased for application of anhydrous ammonia. . . . Mrs. Leonard Rollins named to head state school association. . . . Jerry Cavanaugh wins appointment to West Point. . . . Red Owl Store changes hands, Pat Duncan to take Red Owl supervisorship in South Dakota, Francis Petricka of Montgomery purchases local store. . . . Timm Recreation sold to Joseph Kobilarcsik of Minneapolis. . . . Don Harrington elected president of the Minnesota Board of Education. . . . Lakeside Packing purchases property of Pepin Pickling who have operated here since 1914. . . . Mike Foley retires after 38 years in furniture and funeral business. Sells interest in Foley & Johnson to R. Nick Schriver, Minneapolis mortician. New firm to continue under the name of Johnson & Schriver. . . . Ray Smith buys Plainview Seed House which he has managed for Associated Producers past four years. . . . Highway 247 blacktopped, 13-mile speedway. . . . Pioneer Telephone Company begins construction of new building to house dial equipment. Plainview exchange to go "dial" in January. . . . Oscar Wiley and Louis Rother open new implement shop, take over Ferguson franchise. . . . Ralph O'Conners heads silicone plant in West Virginia. . . . Mr.

and Mrs. George Dickman celebrate 70th wedding anniversary. . . . \$900,000 bond issue approved by 483-vote majority for new school building. . . . Kreofsky gets contract for new Fire Hall. . . . Lakeside Packing pays out \$355,000 to vegetable growers in area during 1955 season. . . . John Keough completes 50 years with Botsford Lumber Company, 44 years in Plainview as civic leader. Irvin Pearson succeeds him as Botsford manager. . . . Travelers Club meets with Mr. Archie Grahn of Minnesota Historical Society, lays plans for compiling "Centennial Book".

1956 "The moving finger writes, and having writ, moves on". . . as does Plainview, into her second century, earnestly working to preserve the good works of our pioneers, that Plainview may always sit high on her **Plateau of Plenty**. And believing, as our forefathers must have, that Tennyson was right when he wrote, "This time, like all times, is a very good one if we but know what to do with it".

THE GIFT OF THE CENTURY

Surely you must know someone who would enjoy this history as much as you have. Additional copies will be mailed for you with an appropriate gift card enclosed by sending \$3.00 to:

T. V. ZABEL, Chairman
Centennial Book Sales
Plainview, Minnesota

Be sure to print the name and address of the recipient plainly.



The **Sisters of the Swish**, with a roster of over 700 members wearing the insignia of the little gold shoes, have proven themselves the most active Centennial group, both in fun-raising and fund-raising. Crews of Swish-Ups have invaded both public and private gatherings over a wide radius for months, pervading each assembly with Centennial spirit. Their Style Revue, *Modes and Moods of a Century*, will go down in history as outstanding, along with their Kiddie Parade, Square Dance Festival and Community Sings.



Their **Brothers of the Brush** have also been meeting regularly—to mull over the latest in styles and itching lotions and to consume the best in crackers and Plainview cheese. But so far they have exercised enough sales ability to get their able Sisters to do most of the work. Oh well, they're good for laughs, and excellent advertising for the Plainview Centennial even while they're fishing. And it's a good thing they are sponsored by the Plainview Fire Department because some of them haven't given up smoking.

1956 Plainview Business and Professional Directory

A-A Fertilizer Co., Wm. Schultz, Pres., John Boehlke, Secy.
Bartz Specialty Shop, A. A. Bartz
Bates Variety Store, Mrs. M. E. and Wm. Bates
Bennett Sand & Gravel, Floyd Bennett
Kenneth Bigelow, Painting & Decorating
Binder Sales & Service, Art Binder
Louis Boehlke, Building Contractor
Botstord Lumber Co., Ervin Pearson, Mgr.
Boyd Barber Shop, Harold Boyd
Walter Briesse, Poultry Supplies
Briggs Bulk Oil Service, Kenneth Briggs
Brueske Texaco Service, Herbert Brueske
Merle Buckingham, Salvage
Burkhardt & Dunlap, Attorneys, A. A. Burkhardt, Robert Dunlap
Dr. E. R. Carpenter, Dentist
Dr. J. Cavanaugh, Veterinarian
Chicago, N. W. Depot, E. W. O'Connors, Agent
Christgau & Douglass Pharmacy, George Douglass
Coast-to-Coast Store, Matt Eischens
Community Clinic, Dr. D. G. Mahle, Physician and Surgeon
Cons. Breeders Coop. Assn., Leo Schouweiller
Cook Pure Oil Station, George Cook
Dairy Cafe, Mike Mertes
Deming Radio & Appliance Shop, Willard Deming
Lewis Dickerman, Insurance
George Dickman, Real Estate
Dill Elevator Co., Ralph Seeman, Mgr.
Donlinger's Cafe, Earl Donlinger
Durgin Transfer Co., Franklin Durgin
Edwards Machine Shop, W. G. & Ralph Edwards
Eggers Grocery, Tom and Miss Helma Eggers
Erding Barber Shop, H. C. Erding
Federated Store, Norman Heinen
First National Bank of Plainview, Earl Harrington, Pres., Wright Miller, V.P., Don Harrington, Cashier.
Gebert's Grocery, Romie Gebert, Lyle LaCroix
Gem Theater, William Carter
Frederick W. Gerber, Attorney
Dr. R. A. Glabe, Physician and Surgeon
Goetz Boot Shop, Ernest Goetz
Rudy Goetz, Cartage
Gray's Standard Station, Maynard Gray
H & H Dairy, Robert Huelskamp, James Harlan
Hamm Floral, "Pa" and "Ma" Hamm
Hobby Shop, John Magnussen

Holst Grocery, Arthur Holst
Hotel Plainview, Fred Nettekoven
George Howser, Used Cars
Lloyd Hulin, J. R. Watkins Agency
The Inn, Lyle Wehrs
Interstate Power Co., Marvin Richardson, Mgr.
Jadny Leather & Shoe Shop, Joseph Jadny
Jerry's Skelly Station, Gerald Hall
Joe's Bowling Center, Joseph Kobilarcsik
Johnson & Schriver Funeral Home
Johnson & Schriver Furniture, Robert Johnson, R. Nick Schriver
S. L. Johnson, Supt., Plainview Community School
King's Food Store, Vince King
Kleiber Plumbing & Heating, Albert Kleiber
Koepsell Hardware, Elmer Koepsell
Bruce Kreotsky, Building Contractor
H. M. Kreotsky, Contractor
Kruger Cabinet Works, P. J. Kruger
Jos. Kruger & Son, Contractors
Kruger Pool Hall, Reuben Kruger
Kruger Welding Shop, Norman Kruger
Lakeside Packing Co., Wm. (Ted) Cavanaugh, Gen. Mgr., Rolland Anderson, Field Supt., Stan Wachowiak, Office Mgr.
Mrs. W. F. Lamprecht, Antiques
Lance Cleaners, Neil Lance
Langum Produce Co., Nathan Langum
Leonard Grocery, Dave Leonard
Dr. C. M. MacKenzie, Osteopathic Physician and Surgeon
Mack Printing Co., R. M. Mack, R. J. Mack
Mann Clothing, Louis Mann
March Studios, Frank Mrachek
Maringer Radio & Television, Joe Maringer
Martha's Beauty Shop, Martha Standinger
George Mason, Stock Buyer & Trucker
Men's Shop, Jack Magnussen
Miller-Harrington Insurance Agency, Wallace Richardson, Gen. Mgr.
Mulligan Bulk Oil Co., James Mulligan
Nedrelov Jewelry, Henry Nedrelov
Nelson-Gray Irrigation Co., Maynard Gray, Leonard Nelson
Nelson Produce Co., Earl Nelson
Harold Oliverson, Woodworking
Olson's Market, Harold Olson
Bruce Oxtom, Insurance
Peoples Coop. Assn., Station & Farm Store, Elmer Ginkel, Mgr.

Peoples Coop. Power Assn., Dover Blackburn, Mgr.
Peoples State Bank, H. W. Zabel, Pres., T. V. Zabel, V.P., Walter Kulawski, Cashier
Peoples State Bank Insurance Agency, T. V. Zabel, Gen. Mgr.
Pierce Auto Electric Co., Nathaniel Pierce
Pioneer Telephone Co., B. H. Wirt, Mgr.
Plainview Bakery, Arnold Haack
Plainview Concrete Co., Robert Haley
Plainview Coop. Creamery & Feed Store, Glenn Hasse, Mgr.
Plainview Hardware, Clarence Cook
Plainview Implement Co., Oscar Wiley and Louis Rother
Plainview Locker Plant, Herbert Kaupa
Plainview Motors, Inc., R. Schwanbeck, Pres.
Plainview News, R. J. Mack, R. M. Mack
Plainview Oil Co., Warren Woodcock, Pres.
Plainview Produce Co., Herb Feldman, Mgr.
Plainview Seed House, Ray Smith
Plein Auto Co., Glen Wegner
Polly's Beauty Shop, Polly Magnuseen
Propane Gas Division, Coop. Oil Co., Paul Daly, Mgr.
Red Owl Store, Francis Petricka
Reiter Implement Store, Laird Reiter, Pres., Harry Sparks, V.P., Harold Lamp, Secy-Treas.
Reiter-Murphy, Inc., Adrian Reiter, Pres., Wm. Murphy, Secy-Treas.
Rest Haven Nursing Home, Mrs. Arthur Eggers
Rosenberg Shoe Repair Shop, Wm. Rosenberg
Dr. Richard Rossi, Dentist
Rother's Meat Market, George Rother
Schuchard Transfer, A. W. Schuchard
Schultz Implement Co., Wm. Schultz, Pres., John Boehlke, Secy.
Steffen Implement Co., Howard Steffen
Taylor Barber Shop, Francis Taylor
Taylor Chevrolet, Ray Taylor
TipTop Cafe, Mabel Wood
Tucker Construction Co., Don Tucker
Wabasha Implement Co., Merlin Williams, Wm. Brugger
Wentworth Garage, Vern Wentworth
A. J. Wild, Painter
Wiley Milk Cartage, Oscar Wiley
Wilkins Thrift Shop
William Wischow, Insurance

Centennial Days

June 29, 30 and July 1, 1956

Tickets for the historic pageant, "The Challenge of a Century" to be shown June 29 and 30 are on advance sale: \$1.00 for adults, 50c for children. Box office \$1.25 for adults and 60c for children. If the weather is inclement on either Friday or Saturday nights, the pageant will be presented on Sunday evening, July 1.

The band concerts, variety acts, merchandise awards, square dance, old tyme fiddlers contest and many other events are free.

All during the Centennial, Main Street windows will be a museum of antiques and photographs of the History of our community.

A Red Cross first aid station, fully equipped, will be manned throughout the celebration.

Meals and light lunches will be served in the various church dining rooms and food stands as well as by our five local restaurants.

A roster of sleeping rooms will be available—also someone to assist in securing accommodations.

Centennial Headquarters, located in the Plainview Hotel Square, has been open daily since February, with John Keough as "Mayor" and Lee Baldwin as "Scribe". During the three Centennial Days an information booth will also be strategically located.

QUEEN CANDIDATES

Name	Sponsor
Charleen Appel	Christgau & Douglass
Marlene Carsten	Oakwood Farm Bureau
Joy Cavanaugh	Peoples State Bank
Kathleen Cavanaugh	Lakeside Packing Co.
Maureen Costello	Coast-to-Coast & Mens Shop
Janet Cravath	Plainview Coop. Creamery
Virginia Gengler	Plainview Farm Bureau
Dona Haessig	Joe's Cafe
Joan Holzer	Plainview Firemen
Marjorie Majerus	First National Bank
Kathryn Nunamaker	Koopsell Hardware
Shirley Mueller	Plainview Farmer's Union
Susan Schad	Plainview Hardware
Ardeth Schulz	Jerry's Skelly Station
Judith Stoltz	H.G.H. 4-H Club
Maxine Tucker	Tucker Construction Co.

"BELLE OF THE SWISH" CANDIDATES

Name	Sponsor
Mrs. George Dickman	Lutheran Ladies' Aid
Mrs. Mike Leonard	American Legion & Auxiliary
Mrs. John Liebenow	Plainview Farm Bureau
Miss Erma Miller	Plainview P.T.A.
Mrs. James Walker	Social Club

Pre-Centennial Calendar

November 6, 1955: Centennial Kickoff Banquet honoring pioneers over 80.

February 4, 1956: Greenwood Prairie Old Settlers annual banquet, with Centennial Farmers as guests of honor.

Monday, April 30: Sisters of the Swish Style Show, "Modes and Moods of a Century".
Introduction of Centennial Queen Candidates.

Saturday, June 2: Square Dance Festival. Guests from Southern Minnesota Clubs.

Wednesday, June 6: Kiddie and Pet Parade, 2:30 p.m.
Four Divisions—Doll Buggy, Pets, Tricycles, Wagons and Costume.

Saturday, June 9: Old Tyme Fiddlers Contest.
Old Fashioned "Sing" (Dog Patch Style).

Saturday, June 16: Belle of the Swish Coronation.
Band Concert.

Tuesday, June 19: Centennial Ball, Two Name Bands.
Presentation of Centennial Queen Candidates.

Wednesday, June 27: Voting for Centennial Queen Begins (by button or book). Polls open at corner of Broadway and Washington. (Voting closes Friday at 5 p.m.)

Registration Commences at All Local Merchants for Free Prize Drawings (closes Saturday noon).

Centennial Program of Events

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

- All Day Registration of Old Settlers, Former Residents, Guests, Visitors.
- 12:00 m. 100-Gun Salute to Our 1856 Pioneers.
Grand Unveiling of Street Carnival Featuring 10c Kiddie Rides.
- 5:00 p.m. Centennial Queen Contest Polls Close.
- 7:30 p.m. At Fairview Park:
"Good, Good Neighbor Day". Presentation of Visiting Dignitaries of Surrounding Communities by Mayor Rolland Anderson of Plainview.
Crowning of Centennial Queen and Presentation of Her Court.
Premiere Showing of **"The Challenge of a Century"**, a powerful historic pageant, professionally produced and directed, with local cast of over 200—depicting the drama, humor and pathos of our pioneer living.

* * * *

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

- All Day Registration of Old Settlers, Former Residents, Guests, Visitors.
- Morning Landmark Tours of Surrounding Area, Including Earth Mounds, Gold Mines, Trout Streams and All Points of Historic Interest.
- 12:00 m. Registration for Merchandise Prizes Closes.
- 2:00 p.m. Comic Parade. Sponsored by Sisters of the Swish and their Brothers of the Brush.
Gludt's Schnitzelbank, Stage Acts, Announcement of Merchandise Award Winners.
Carnival and Side Shows, Special Events.
- 7:30 p.m. At Fairview Park:
Aerial Salute—Band Concert.
Introduction of Special Guests by Mayor Anderson.
Presentation of Plainview Centennial Queen and Her Court.
Final Performance of **"The Challenge of a Century"**, the professionally produced drama of our history with a local cast of over 200.

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SUNDAY, JULY 1

- Morning Special Centennial Services at all Local Churches.
- All Day Registration of Old Settlers, Former Residents, Guests, Visitors.
- 2:00 p.m. SPECTACULAR CENTENNIAL PARADE. Over 200 units, queens, VIP's, ox teams, stagecoaches, Saddle Clubs, bands, drum corps, Indians, antique cars, pioneer farm machinery, clowns—and surprises galore.
Beard Judging and "Brush" Clearing Contest.
Special Events, Hospitality Mixers, Carnival Rides and Shows, Games.
- 8:30 p.m. At Fairview Park:
Band Concert — Music Festival — Old Fashioned "Sing".
Sealing of Time Capsule to be Placed in New School Cornerstone.
Fireworks — Fireworks — Fireworks.

Centennial Committees

"Blessed are they who run in circles for they shall be known as wheels."

Robert Johnson
General Chairman

Fred Gerber, Harold Olson, R. Nick Schriver
Vice Chairmen

Centennial Headquarters

John Keough, Mayor; Lee Baldwin, Scribe.

Brothers of the Brush

Plainview Fire Dept., Jim Purvis, Chairman.
Kangaroo Court: Elmer Koepsell, Judge.

Centennial Ball

Mrs. Donald Norton, Chairman.

Centennial Book Sales

Ted Zabel, Chairman; Bob Mack, Jr.

Concessions

Lester Christison, Chairman; Joe Kobalarecik,
Herbert Kaupa.

Decorations

Jack Magnussen, Chairman; Matt Eischens.

Entertainment and Pageant

Bill Carter, Chairman; Neil Lance, Louis Mann.
Programming: Wallace Richardson.

Finance

Don Harrington, Chairman; Ted Zabel.

First Aid

Dr. Robert Glabe, Chairman.

Grounds

Rolland Anderson, Chairman; Frank Mrachek, Arvid
Johnson, Vern Herman.

Electricity: Marvin Richardson.

Pageant Seating: Henry Kreofsky, Bob Haley, Ervin
Pearson.

Pageant Stage: Nate Pierce.

Health and Sanitation

Dr. D. G. Mahle, Chairman.

History

Travelers Club, Mrs. Fred Gerber, Chairman.

Hospitality

Mrs. Arthur Wempner, Chairman; Robert Dunlap,
Rolland Anderson.

Housing

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nettekoven, Chairmen.

Information Booth

Mrs. Maynard Gray, Chairman.

Minutemen

William Murphy, Chairman.

Music

Walter Gludt, Chairman.

Novelties and Buttons

Marshall Cook, Chairman; Don Pille, Bill Bates, Bob
Huelskamp.

Parade

Glenn Hasse, Chairman; Walter Gludt, Herb Feldman,
Lyle LaCroix.

Pioneers

Kenneth Baldwin, Chairman.

Police, Traffic and Parking

Ralph Sveska, Chairman; Clarence Senst, Herbert Wurst,
Louis Sveska.

Publicity

Vince King, Chairman; Bob Mack, Jr., George Mason, Don
Pille, Ralph Seeman, Donald Tucker.

Queens

Mrs. Orville NedreLOW, Chairman; Mrs. Matt Eischens,
Mrs. Ray Keller, Mrs. Harold Oliverson.

Sisters of the Swish

Mrs. Frank Mrachek, Chairman.

Belles of the Swish: Mrs. Herbert Feldman.

Community Sings: Mrs. Robert Mack, Jr., Mrs. Carol
Wurst, Mrs. Adrian Reiter.

Kiddie and Pet Parade: Mrs. Neil Lance, Mrs. George Cook,
Mrs. Robert Holst, Jr.

Square Dance Festival: Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Glaesmer.

Style Revue: Mmes. Nathan Langum, Joseph Cavanaugh,
Harold Lamp, Adrian Reiter, Bruce Oxtan, Fred Green.

Window Displays

Mrs. Vern Herman, Chairman; Mmes. Arthur Olin, Edwin
Schulz, Jesse Glaesmer, Stanley Wood.

In Conclusion

We thought you would like to know that to give you 100 years of history in 100 pages it has required **over 100 hours** in research and compilation (and 100 sheets of paper) for **every page** printed. Even so, many errors and omissions will come to light.

We have tried to the utmost to be fair and impartial; however, if we were wont to amend our dedication, we might well give credit to Benjamin Franklin who, in 1731, said, "If all printers were determin'd not to print anything till they were sure it would offend no body, there would be very little printed".

—The Editor

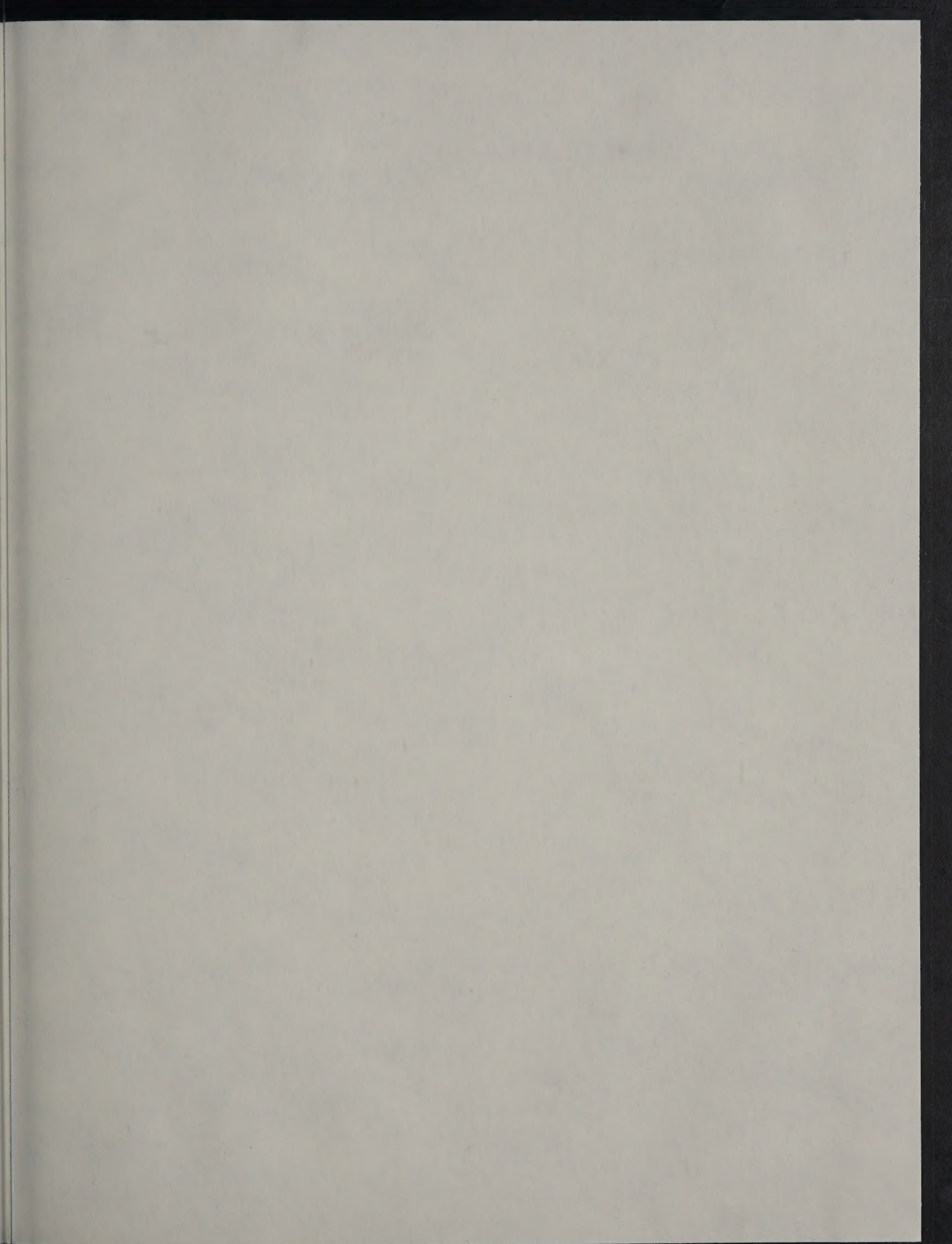


A few of the many who have stood on their heads for months to make your Centennial a success.

Seated: John Keough, Adele NedreLOW, Mary Gerber, Fred Gerber, Bob Johnson, Harold Olson, Nick Schriver, Janet Mrachek, Lee Baldwin. Standing: Elmer Koepsell, Vince King, Don Pille, Bill Carter, Ted Zabel, Don Harrington, Jack Magnussen, Glenn Hasse, Neil Lance, Les Christison, Matt Eischens, Louie Mann and Rolland Anderson.







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